

DECEMBER 2023

# CASHBOX

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Album While Celebrating the  
25th Anniversary of Her  
Mega-Hit Album, "Believe"**

# Ashley Eden



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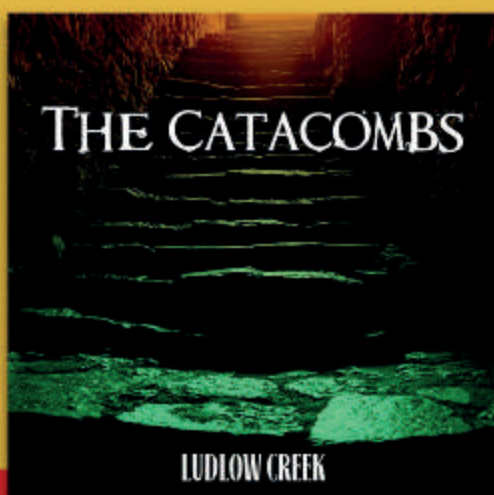
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A portrait of Chuck Hancock, a man with a mustache and goatee, wearing a white cowboy hat and a black shirt. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a snowy pine tree.

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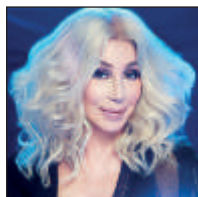
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*The Goddess of Pop Releases Her First Ever Christmas Album While Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Her Mega-Hit Album, "Believe"*  
Staff, Cashbox

Cash Box was founded by Bill Gersh in 1942. George Albert took ownership from the late 1950s until his passing in 1997. In 2006, Bruce Elrod, a music professional and record producer, revived the magazine as an online publication with the revised name, Cashbox. Bruce partnered with music promoter and magazine publisher, Randall Wilds, in 2018. This partnership re-established Cashbox as a printed publication. Today, Wilds & Associates continues the publication of Cashbox with integrity and pride, preserving the legacy of its founders and former owners - the late Bill Gersh, George Albert, and Bruce Elrod.

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### CASHBOX MAGAZINE

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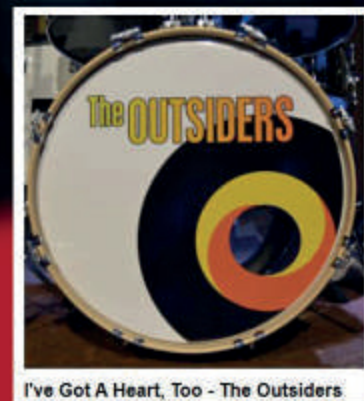
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## *Dear Readers and Subscribers,*

With heavy hearts we announce the death of our dear friend and mentor, Bruce Elrod. At age 74, the music industry leader passed away peacefully at his home in South Carolina on October 12, 2023, surrounded by friends and family.

Bruce was born in 1949 and grew up in Columbia, South Carolina. He would become a record collector as a young lad, buying his first 78 RPM (revolutions per minute) of Billy Hayes singing *The Ballad Of Davy Crockett*. With the help of his parents and a vocational grant, right out of high school, he opened his first business, Elrod's Record Shop & Gas Station. The year was 1968, gas was \$.18 a gallon, Coke and Pepsi were \$.10 a bottle (and returnable for cash), 45 records were \$.39 and LPs were \$3.88. Folks would drive up for a fill-up and order 45s. Bruce would go on to USC to study meteorology but became a social worker. The record shop closed in 1972.

Elrod would take a music hobby and create a business called Your Hit Parade Golden Oldies. The business bought old records from stores and radio stations, then resold them. As inventory dwindled, he realized that 45s, 78s, and LPs were not being produced any longer. Elrod's business brainstorm was with the startup of Lost Gold Records in 1986. The company's first LP was artist Roz Bowie, an amazing black lady vocalist from Oklahoma. She did the recording for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Her version of *Dixie* was perhaps the best version ever recorded, with both Billboard and Cashbox giving it tremendous reviews. On through the 80s, master tracks from various and major recording artists would duplicate into well over one-hundred CDs, each selling very well.

A conversation with Merle Kilgore and Hank Williams, Jr., about the old Cash Box magazine prompted Bruce to do some research. He secured a web domain name and, later, on July 4, 2006, the magazine went live as an online publication. The name was modified from two words – Cash Box – to one word, Cashbox. The cover was captured by Rebel's Creek from Burnsville, North Carolina. Bruce was quoted as saying, "I never realized nostalgia was as big as it was. Cashbox exploded on the internet!" With the purchase of Record World Magazine in 2013, Bruce stated, "I look for great things in the future, before I go to that great Cashbox in the sky."



### BRUCE CLIFF ELROD

*February 18, 1949 - October 12, 2023*

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In 2015, Tommy Smith, CEO of Canyon Creek Records, introduced Wilds & Associates CEO Randall Wilds to Bruce. Through this acquaintance, a business partnership was eventually established, and Wilds & Associates would become the publisher of Cashbox – reviving the magazine somewhat to its former glory as a bi-monthly, printed publication. The first printed edition of Cashbox published in November of 2018 by Wilds & Associates featured Country music artist, Blake Shelton. After a few printed issues, it became apparent that the publication was being highly received by music professionals and entertainment industry leaders. The magazine continues to grow beyond what anyone could have imagined.

Cashbox Magazine is now a part of the Wilds & Associates conglomerate, with Randall Wilds serving as C.O.O. of Cashbox and Tommy Smith as Marketing Consultant. "Bruce was an intelligent man and, as a music historian, he could tell you just about every song and artist that had ever been released to radio. Music was his life," stated Tommy. He continues, "Bruce and

Randall worked together well for many years. Every time I would talk to Bruce, he would comment on what a great job Randall had done. Cashbox is in good hands with Randall, and I believe it will be the major charting magazine that all music genres will be paying close attention to for years and years to come. Thank you, Bruce, for loving Christ enough to include our artists in your charts. Bruce would always make reference that he was a Christian Jew and was proud of it. He will be missed by all."

Randall adds, "Bruce was truly a pleasure to work with. He was a good man, and a savvy businessman. As a mentor to me, he taught me so much about the music business and about the history of Cashbox magazine. I am sure it could be said of Bruce that he was an expert in the field of music. I'm so thankful to have known him, and very grateful to him for the opportunity to be a part of re-establishing such an iconic music trade publication. Because of his vision and tireless efforts, Cashbox is thriving once again, and still growing."

With each Cashbox issue forward, Wilds and Associates will be striving to excellently and professionally present every singer, songwriter, producer, talent agency, concert event, and record label in a deserving spotlight, a platform, if you will, for the brand-new artist hitting the stage, or for the artist hitting the comeback stage.

Randall and the entire staff of Cashbox say they desire to continue the publication with integrity and pride and preserve the legacy of its founders and former owners – the late Bill Gersh, George Albert, and Bruce Elrod.

### *Editorial Staff, Cashbox*



A promotional graphic for Dempster Music Ministry. On the left, there is a crest with a shield, a crown, and two lions, with the text "EMERALD OF THE ELDER" and "DEMPSTER MUSIC MINISTRY" around it. To the right of the crest, the text "Dempster Music Ministry" is written in a white serif font. Below that, "Elder Dempster" is written in a large white sans-serif font, with "CEO-Founder" underneath in a smaller white sans-serif font. On the right side, there is a portrait of a smiling man in a red tuxedo jacket, white shirt, and dark bow tie. At the bottom left, there are four icons with corresponding text: a telephone icon with "240-906-9230", an envelope icon with "DmmPublicist@gmail.com", a globe icon with "www.DempsterMusicMinistry.com", and a musical note icon with "Available on Apple &amp; Spotify". At the bottom center, there are two CD covers for "NEVER THE SAME" by Elder Dempster, one in a circular frame and one partially overlapping it.



## Artist Spotlight

Nanaimo's (British Columbia) newest Rock artist, Vince Warry brings his passion for hard hitting music that resonates deep within the soul.

Channeling the raw energy and iconic sounds of his influences - legends such as Led Zeppelin, the Cult, and AC/DC - Vince invites you to join him on his high-octane musical journey. From thunderous riffs to introspective acoustics, Vince Warry weaves together a sonic tapestry and hypnotic allure that is both timeless and fresh.

Originally from Vancouver, Vince cut his teeth in the 90's music scene with his original band Obscene Silence. Following their disbandment in 2006, he fronted Vancouver based Cult Tribute band Spiritwalker and Led Zeppelin tribute band In the Evening.

Upon relocating to Nanaimo (city in British Columbia, Canada), Vince joined Big Record's Yesterdays Fate in a



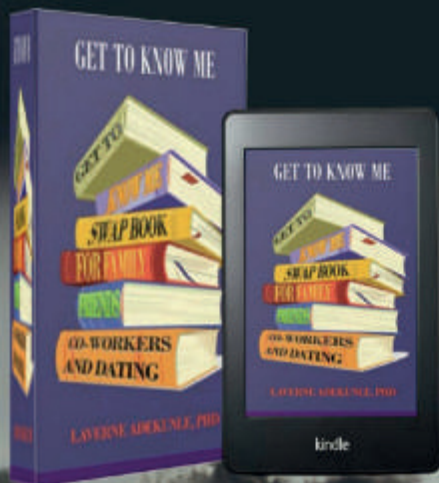
supporting role and has added 80s hits playing The Walkmen and Doors tribute Mojo Risin' to his list of projects.

Vince's correct radio single title, *Too Little, Too Late* has just been released by Big Records, distributed by Millennium Music Group and Airplay Direct.

For more information, visit [www.bigrecords.world](http://www.bigrecords.world).

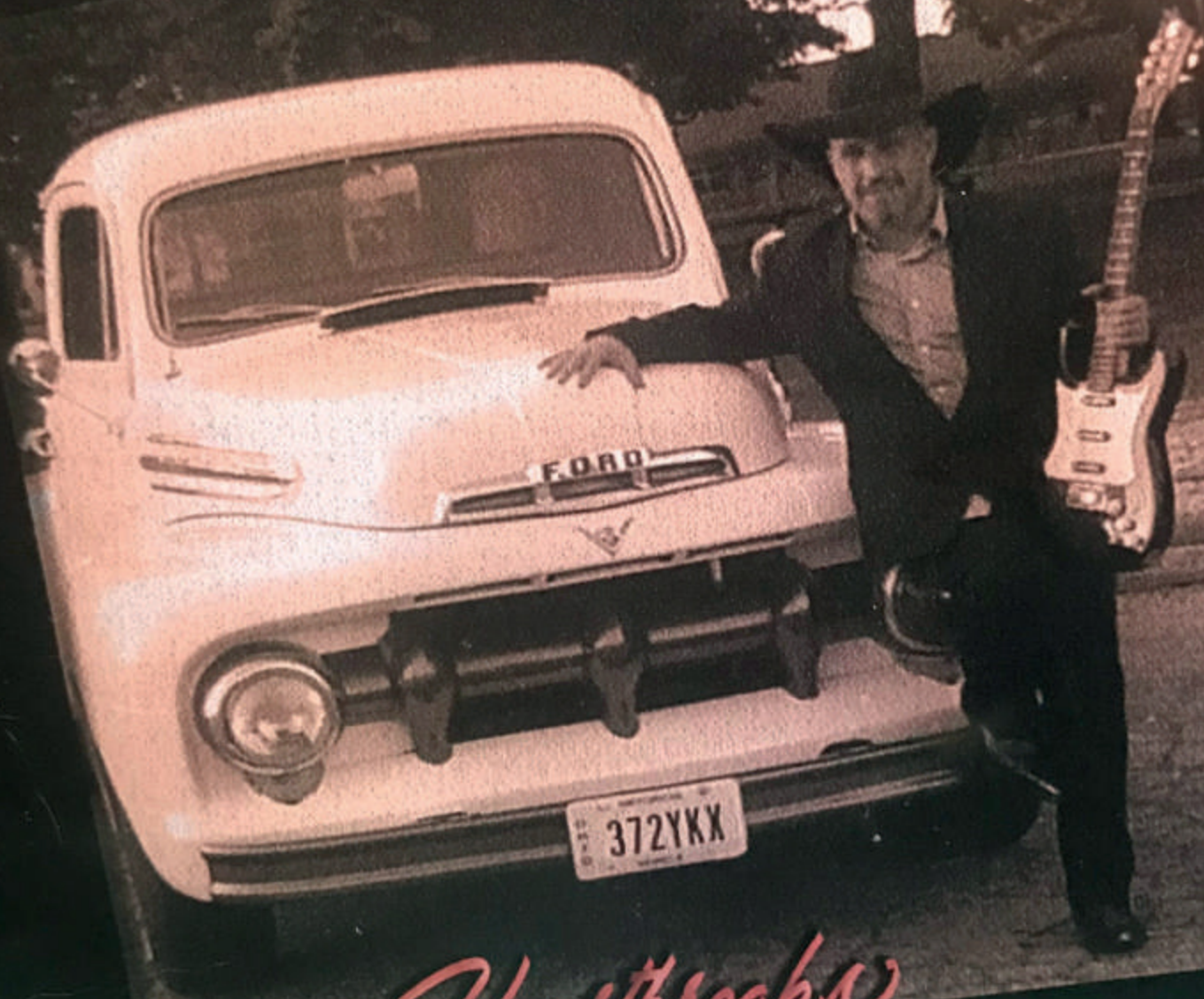
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# James Mason



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A photograph of Amanda Page Cornett, a woman with long, curly brown hair, wearing a white tank top and a denim vest. She is standing on a balcony with a railing, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background shows green foliage and a building.

# AMANDA PAGE CORNETT Strives for More!

By Robin Tanner

**A**manda Page Cornett instantly found a passion for singing, writing, and performing before the age of nine. Born in Spartanburg, South Carolina - which was steeped in music and birthed the careers of musicians such as The Marshall Tucker Band and Pinky Anderson - she performed with many church, school, and community groups throughout her youth. After playing her first original song at the age of thirteen, Amanda knew that she had found her calling.

Amanda shares her musical influences. “Growing up in Spartanburg, I naturally loved Southern Rock! I was always drawn to the rebels of Country music, such as Hank Williams Jr, Charlie Daniels, Tanya Tucker, Travis Tritt, The Judds, etc. Throughout my journey, my music has been greatly influenced by Rock legends such as Janis Joplin, Lynyrd Skynyrd, as well as soul singers Etta James and Aretha Franklin, to name a few.”

Upon graduating from the University of Florida, Cornett relocated to Nashville, Tennessee. “Once I moved to Nashville, I began honing my craft as a writer and as a vocalist,” she states. “I also was put together with a few siblings who became my band family. The Almost Angels features the sibling trio Sherry Peterson-Tenille, Shawn Peterson, and Randall Scott Peterson. Performing led to finding my sound, which I call Southern Rock n Soul! It's a mixture of Country, Rock and Blues.”

Amanda and The Almost Angels have been privileged to share the stage and play with great musicians. “My band and I have been fortunate enough to play with Artimus Pyle from Lynyrd Skynyrd who filled in at drums for a weekend, while a former Marshall Tucker band bassist Tim Lawter filled in another weekend! Those were both pretty epic!”

Cornett includes a couple highlights that has shaped her career. “My co-writer Mark Narmore brought me into the Muscle Shoals, Alabama family of music! The soul and kindness of the musicians in the Shoals has been a true blessing!”

She released an album, “Front Porch Rebel” in 2018, recorded at NuttHouse Studio in Sheffield, Alabama and features songs written at Muscle Shoals’ famous Fame Studios which featured Aretha Franklin, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Allman Brothers, and Etta James. “In April 2023, the band and I were honored to be named ‘Southern Rock Band of The Year’ by the Mississippi Music Awards, which was incredibly special!” Cornett and Almost Angels are currently preparing for a nationwide tour.

The Southern rocker also has acted in various films, music videos, and commercials. Featured in the 2009 movie, “Junkyard Dog,” in addition to working with Kirsti Manna’s Songwriter Girl Camp, Cornett has also written with many hit writers, including Mark Narmore, Spooner Oldham, Rich Fagan, Will Rambeau, Greg Lawson (pop), and Kirsti Manna.

Through all the career achievements and highlights, Amanda and the band have dealt with their share of challenges in the music business. “The entertainment world is unlike any other business. There is no formula for success. So, every artist’s journey can be completely unique! Being in Nashville has allowed me to really take my natural talents and develop them to a

professional level. However, there are a lot of people who can say the same! One of the biggest challenges is learning to listen to advice, consider it, and decide when it is right for you! It’s easy to get pulled in a million directions, so the ability to decide which advice is best takes time and honest self-consideration. I believe following has helped my career in forcing me to dig deep and not settle to be good, but to always strive for more.”

Cornett’s previous singles and videos have received great response by fans. “My first official music video, *Swamp Love (Gator Style)*, written with Guy Gilchrist, definitely played to a niche crowd of Florida Gators alumni, students, and fans. The idea was a little outside the box, but I definitely feel it’s been successful! *The Carolina Coast* single and video have really continued to do well, too. My co-writers on that beachy song are Tracey Colling and Kevin Robey. We’re all proud of that one!”

Amanda’s current single, *Soldier’s Girl* was co-written with artist Robert Burgeis. She shares what this very special song means to her. “I have so many friends and family

members who have served or are serving in the different US military branches. I believe it’s so important that we, as a country, support those who help us stay free, regardless of our stance on war. The men and women who bravely serve are true heroes.”

When not touring and making music, the South Carolina native devotes herself to volunteering with various organizations such as Salkehatchie Summer Service and participating in fundraisers for conditions such as Cystic Fibrosis and ALS.



“Prior to moving to Nashville full time, I was struggling with the fight between my left and right brain...the sensible side versus my dreams,” Amanda admits. “A dear friend reminded me that ‘being scared is an inclination to God of disbelief. It’s saying you don’t trust Him to take care of you.’ That still resonates with each step of my career. I pray about my decisions and direction and try to follow where I’m being pushed.”

“My mission is to create and execute musical experiences people can deeply feel. If you hear me play solo or with my band, I pray you will feel something real. My band and I have so much fun on stage and hope our audiences have at least half as much fun as we do. We truly love playing music together! We are always happy to meet people and engage after shows, as well. It’s not about us, but about how the music hits you...all of you.”

[www.amandapagecornett.com](http://www.amandapagecornett.com)

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# CASHBOX

## Artist Spotlight

# TOM HEYMAN

By Robin Tanner

Singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Tom Heyman started playing and recording in the late 1980s with the Philadelphia based band, Go To Blazes. He wrote songs, played guitar, and the band released five full-length records and toured the US and Europe extensively before breaking up in 1997.

After relocating to San Francisco in 1998, he began working as a sideman, eventually joining local favorites The Court and Spark, as well as Chuck Prophet's band in addition to work touring and recording with John Doe, Alejandro Escovedo, Sonny Smith, Hiss Golden Messenger, and many other artists. All the while he was discovering his voice as a solo artist and bandleader.

His second solo record, "Deliver Me," was critically acclaimed, receiving 4-star reviews in both Mojo and Uncut magazine, and songs from the record were heard in the TV shows True Blood, Justified, and Damages.

Heyman reflects on those early beginnings. "My initial experience was playing guitar in Blues bands with folks who were quite a bit older than me. I learned about how to be a pro on the bandstand, to be on-time, in-time, and in-tune and how to communicate clearly, and to have my act together. As soon as I started writing songs, my world expanded, and since then I have worked as a band leader and solo artist while still being available as a hired guitar/pedal steel player."

He adds, "My songwriting heroes are constantly changing but some big ones are Warren Zevon, JJ Cale, Gordon Lightfoot, Dan Penn, and Nick Lowe. As a guitarist, I love Magic Sam, Lightnin' Hopkins, James Burton, Ry Cooder, and Jesse Ed Davis...and pedal steel players like Lloyd Green, and Ben Keith."

He shares some memorable highlights during his career. "It would be playing at CBGB's in New York when Hilly Kristal still ran it, playing at the Fillmore Auditorium in San Francisco, being reviewed on Fresh Air, performing on the BBC, and on Spanish National television."

"24th Street Blues" is the musician's sixth solo recording - a concept album about the endangered culture and living ghosts of San Francisco's Mission District where he resides. The CD has a companion 60-page songbook comprising lyrics



and music charts accompanied by a gorgeous collection of paintings and drawings that were designed as companion pieces for each song. These were created by Heyman's wife, Deirdre F. White, an artist and educator acutely tuned into composing images of modern dystopian inequality and the housing/mobility challenges of the American West.

The intention was to create a sound that combined the loose, late-night, low-down groove of JJ Cale with the bittersweet melancholia of late period Nick Lowe and the melodic storytelling of Heyman's hero Gordon Lightfoot. The record was written mostly at night, after long bar shifts and is an examination of the loneliness and alienation of a city in flux and the true cost of love. "24th Street Blues" was released on October 6, 2023, in vinyl, compact disc, and digital formats.

"I get inspired any time I feel like I have connected with an audience at a live show. It is hard to properly convey what a powerful feeling it can be when it happens," Heyman expresses. "One of the most transcendently mysterious moments I have had on stage was playing guitar behind the great cult guitarist Carlos Guitarlos one night in Albany, California, and Carlos was grooving on a John Lee Hooker style boogie."

He concludes "My goal is to keep writing and recording songs, and to keep on taking them to the people. The fans can expect me to show up on-time, in-time and in-tune, and to do my best to connect."

[www.tomheymanmusic.net](http://www.tomheymanmusic.net)



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Amy McAllister is a lover of faith, family, and friends. She's a natural born leader, businesswoman, and humanitarian who shares her music, story, and modalities in hopes to bless and heal the world.

# Amy McAllister

A Beautiful  
Soul Shining a  
Bright Light

By Robin Tanner

**A**my believes God placed her on a path to be a light to everyone she meets. She explains, "I believe I was just born with my heart beating to the sound of music, and as far back as I can remember there is one epic song after another that marks my every memory. I am blessed my mom and dad made sacrifices so I could take voice, piano, and dance lessons, sing in the church choir, and star in the local musicals. There's no doubt, the lessons, hard work, and dedication in developing my talents contributed to where I am today. I also wholeheartedly believe I am right where I am destined to be, aligned with my soul purpose and living God's biggest dream for me."

Amy has been influenced by a vast array of music icons through the years - Michael Jackson, Lionel Richie, Quincy Jones, Whitney Houston, Diana Ross, Charlie Pride, Olivia Newton John, and Dionne Warwick. She says, "My number one favorite of all time is Dolly Parton, not only as a singer-songwriter and performer, but as a person too. I love her heart, drive, and sass! I resonate with her philosophy of life, and the way she lives unapologetically true to herself and her own path and purpose. Most of all, I love her passion for philanthropy, advocacy, and giving back. It may be on a much smaller scale, but I feel I have remained true to my childhood dream and passion of modeling my life after Dolly, my most iconic influence."

Amy's first album, "Building Reasons And Dreams," was dedicated in honor and memory of her brother Brad, featuring songs from the heart that are healing for the soul. Her music is inspiring and has brought healing to people all over the world who are in recovery, struggling with mental health issues, coping with the loss of loved ones, or in need of inspiration to live life to the fullest.

She recalls some memorable moments that will always stand out in her mind. "I cherish every one of my music career memories, both big and small. Some highlights are performing my hit song, *My Angel*, in honor of my angel brother Brad, for the Josie Music Awards Ceremony. I will never forget feeling like my childhood dream of "one day being like Dolly" had come full circle on that iconic Celebrity Theater stage inside Dollywood Theme Park and Resort, in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. And performing Ralph Stanley's version of *This Little Light Of Mine* on the Grand Ole Opry Stage. I had the time of my life paying tribute to the legendary Dr. Ralph Stanley. This was one of the most spiritual experiences of my career, a night on which I felt the presence of many angels in the wings."

Another special memory for Amy was performing for the 'Wall That Heals' opening and closing ceremonies. "I will never forget the feeling of my hero Veterans in uniform, rising to their feet, rocking out, and singing along to *Let Freedom Rock*, the song I wrote to honor them."

Amy has received numerous awards for her music and songwriting. She shares what truly matters most of all. "It's most rewarding, hearing and witnessing when my music touches a heart and/or blesses a life in a positive way. I am also extremely honored to have been presented with the Josie

Music Awards 'Humanitarian of The Year' award. Recently, I was commissioned with the highest honor of being recognized as a Kentucky Colonel. I am still so humbled and overwhelmed with gratitude to God, The State of Kentucky, and the Duncan family. I love that this title carries with it a long-standing tradition of honor, integrity, and unwavering commitment to the betterment of our communities. Receiving this honor is not something that I ever expected, but it is a testament to the power of passion and purpose. Throughout my life, I have strived to embody the values that this prestigious title represents - compassion, love, kindness, and a genuine desire to make a positive impact upon the lives of others."



On August 19th of this year, Amy received her first ever #1 on iTunes on the World-Wide USA Charts with her latest collaborative single, *Spread Hope Send Love Around The World* (The Power Of One Movement). Amy expresses, "It's my most important work to date. I am honored to be the Founder, Executive Producer and initiator of Spread Hope Send Love Around The World - The Power Of One Movement to bring awareness for suicide prevention. I am over the moon to be living proof that a dream I thought took four years to make happen is actually a thirty-seven-year dream in the making that was destined to come to fruition at this very time. Since I was thirteen, I dreamed of being a part of a project like Michael Jackson's and Lionel Richie's *We Are The World*."

This special collaboration features many talented artists, including Annemarie Picerno, Charu Suri, Corey Lee Barker, Damian Wyldes, Eddy Kenzo, Jessie Southwick, Joseck Asikoye, Justo Asikoye, Justine Blazer, Kamaal Malak, Karlton Jones, Kathryn Shipley, Kristen Speller, Lisa Coppola, Lou Molitch, Megan Coleman, Natalie Jean, Nicki Kris, Nawsure Mowdy, Ricky Persaud Jr., Seay Tess Remy-Schumacher, and Amy's husband Chad McAllister.

"We have answered the call to action that expands far beyond the realm of music! We have come together as one movement and our purpose to amplify The Power of One and the impact each individual's contribution has on a global scale.

We believe through our collective efforts we can and will create a world where mental health is prioritized, stigma is eradicated, and every individual is empowered to remember their own unique reason to stay. Then help others who are struggling to do the same.”

Amy gives encouragement through her own struggles and challenges. “Our deepest pain and traumas are the gifts that force us to dig deep. They are the hidden gems sent to put us on our personal path of purpose and help us discover and become all we are born to be. I have learned to have complete faith that God is ALWAYS protecting me, and everything is happening as it should, in divine time, and for the highest good of all. We may not see it at the time, but life is always happening *for* us, not *to* us. I have learned that life is about love and forgiveness. If you haven’t heard Kane Brown’s song *Learning* please listen to it. I sing it at the top of my lungs, on the daily, to remind me that forgiveness is something we have to know and learn, to master to be whole, and live our best lives.”

When Amy hosts an event or show, she puts her whole heart into creating an experience that is more than music. “My intention is that no matter who attends, where they are from, how they believe, or what they’ve been through, they know I love and appreciate them being there. I truly love their most beautiful souls, and I pray that if they didn’t know it before, they leave knowing that God and the entire universe loves them most. We all matter, we all make a difference, and we all belong. Our differences are what make us most beautiful, and the world needs more of every one of us.”

At the age of 50, she is living her biggest childhood dream of being “all the things” - a wife, mom, Brownie, (aka Grandma), a multi award winning singer, songwriter and performer, a self-help influencer, and energy healer. Given her dedication to “paying it forward,” Amy always says “yes” to her music supporting a cause, no matter how large or small the platform. She reaches out whenever and wherever possible, making a difference worldwide, by supporting many philanthropic causes and charities.

“My goals are to continue following my heart on this most beautiful path of alignment I am on. Although I’d love to be able to tell you what lies ahead, I will quote the lyrics from one of my most favorite songs I’ve ever penned and recorded instead. It is titled *God Dreams For Me... ‘I could never imagine what was coming my way, because bigger than any dream I could ever dream, is the one God dreams for me.’”*

Amy concludes, “It is very near and dear to my heart, as my daughter Maycee stars as the younger version of myself, and my son-in-law Jackson Bithell produced, filmed, and edited the story of how my music career came to be.” The song and video is available on YouTube.

Amy’s biggest dream is that everyone gets to live theirs. She wants everyone to succeed, and she truly intends to continue shining her own light, while helping others shine their brightest too.

[www.amymcallisttermusic.com](http://www.amymcallisttermusic.com)



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# HASTEN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL MISSIONS

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.  
Psalm 67: 2

## NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL MISSION FIELD Fall 2023

### BARRY'S PERSPECTIVE

I am so excited to be a part of HASTEN International! This growing global and domestic medical mission ministry continues ministry in Mexico, Zim-babwe, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti through your faithfulness. We're so happy to welcome Dr. Tannia and Dr. Daniel in Colombia, South America, who are off to a great start in treating folks, sharing the Gospel, and praying for them in the marketplaces. As we grow, we begin to focus on the new compo-nents of this ministry. The introduction of the do-mestic medical missions trailer brings excitement to many people across the United States. We will start treating and sharing the life-changing Gospel of Je-sus Christ with the underserved in many cities who cannot afford other dental and medical treatment. Ask God how generous of a financial gift He will enable you to give in supporting HASTEN's expand-ing ministry on a monthly basis.

Your selfless contri-butions to this impactful organization, touching the lives of many, stands as a remarkable testament to your unwavering faith in our Lord. Contributing to HASTEN International, now en-dorsed with the Give With Confidence label by Char-ity Navigators, is a fulfilling experience. Expect divine blessings exceeding your generosity!

### COLUMBIA

How thrilling to see the enthusiasm and passion that Dr. Tannia and Dr. Daniel have for medical missions. Although they committed to one remote clinic per month, they've done FOUR remote clinics between July 23rd and the end of August.

### New Banners Enhance the Impact!

Daniel and Tannia are beside the HASTEN banner on the right. The lady at the far left is Nohelly who is an essential part of the evangelistic team.



The banner on the left shows Psalm 67:2-6 which is HASTEN's Key Scripture. The banner on the right shares that "God Provides." You also see the mobile exam table and mobile dental chair as well, which were part of the start-up budget. This panoramic photo shows the set-up for this very rural church.

The team saw 30 patients. Note the banners' dual purpose as privacy screens! In the waiting area Nohelly shares the gospel and leads a Bible study.



### HAITI

The impact of lawlessness is hard to understand as it impacts the day-to-day lives of ordinary people in Haiti. Dr. Dan's family, the operation of the medical clinic, and ministry are greatly impacted. The difficulties in getting food, fuel, power, and medical supplies all require increasing effort and time. Needless to say, the costs have skyrocketed. Furthermore, the violence has spread.

"Here in Gonaives nothing is certain because each day at 16 miles from our city several people have died or kidnapped. I don't know when but I know that God will do something. The situation is really complicated and impossible for us, but with God all things is possible." Dr. Dan continues the medical mission work. He even conducted a remote clinic on August 19.



### Domestic Trailer Update:



We've done a lot of work all over the world, and now we are embarking on a domestic component. This trailer was purchased to minister in underserved areas and to underserved people – those who don't have the capacity or the money to seek dental or medical care. We're going to do dental on one end of the trailer, and medical on the other end. I am so thankful that you joined us on this journey. And hopefully we'll be in your hometown somewhere and give all your people an opportunity to serve on this trailer and to volunteer for people who need our services, and show what the Christian churches will be able to do with this kind of ministry.  
—Dr. Peter Kunkle, Executive Director



SCAN ME



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Outreach Director  
HASTEN International  
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www.hasteninternational.org

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bmcgeehasten@gmail.com





## Artist Spotlight

# ROCKY MICHAELS



**R**ocky Michaels is a multi-award-winning independent singer/songwriter/recording artist. He began playing piano at age five and crafted his skills into songwriting throughout high school.

In May of 2023, Rocky was named as a finalist for 'Male Rising Star of the Year', 'Single of the Year' (*Better Man*), 'Music Video of the Year' (*Best Part of Living*) 'Emerging Artist of the Year' and 'Male Songwriter of the Year' by the International Singer Songwriter's Association.

In May of 2023, he was also named as a nominee for 'Song of the Year' Folk/Americana (*Better Man*) by the Josie Music Awards.

In December of 2020, Rocky was voted 'Male Artist of the Year' by CFAB Music Realm Promotions.

With a number of new songs currently in the pipeline, Rocky is excited to continue tapping into his life experiences to offer honest lyrics in storytelling that audiences have found to be both engaging and relatable.

“Rocky Michaels, for me, is that guy who stands out as one of my favorite music discoveries of 2020!” - Jon Sexauer, Owner and CEO at The Grey Eagle Radio Show.

Rocky’s latest radio single, *An Uncomfortable Truth* has just been released by Big Records, distributed by Millennium Music Group and Airplay Direct.

For more information, visit [www.bigrecords.world](http://www.bigrecords.world).

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Susan Agee Kicks

# Long Black Train

I am so very blessed to have been able to record and release this song. Thank you to all the DJ's that are playing it and those that are requesting it! I pray others are hearing the message, we've got to tell the world about satan's train of destruction before it takes our nation.

*Susie*

Thanks for playing and charting  
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## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

By Robin Tanner

### BARRY MCGEE



As a certified evangelist with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Jerry Falwell Ministries, and Racers for Christ, ministry is always the goal. Barry states, “I love to entertain and minister. For the past thirty years of full time ministry, I have lived my dream!”

Barry reflects on when his love for music started. “I grew up in a musical family playing bass with my brothers and uncles in a Bluegrass band.” He credits Paul McCartney and James Brown as his musical influences.

Barry is a NASCAR/Motorsports Chaplain and volunteers as Shop Chaplain for Motor Racing Outreach (MRO). “We have done volunteer work with Richard Childress Racing, Wood Brothers Racing, Richard Petty Motor Sports, and Morgan Shepherd Racing. We do chapel services for NASCAR and Raceway Ministries, national drag race events, and I am ordained with Racers for Christ (RFC). We also do chapel services for National Hot Rod Association (NHRA).”

Barry’s current services and live musical productions are as follows: Evangelistic messages as a Motorsports Chaplain, Harvey Tater (Musical Comedy), John on the Island of Patmos (Musical Drama), David and Goliath - The Battle is the Lord’s (Musical Drama), Jonah’s Journey (Comedy), Daniel in the Lion’s Den (Musical Drama), Noah (Musical Drama) and Johnny Rock - 81-year-old rock star (Musical Comedy). Each year Barry is scheduled at multiple revivals, youth crusades, vacation bible schools and family church services, as well as numerous prison campaigns and racing events.

Some of the characters he portrays have been televised on the lawn of the Capitol in Washington, DC. McGee also landed a role in the ABC movie “Target Earth” (Ephesians 3:20). He has worked with Dr. Tony Evans, Ricky Skaggs, Charlie Daniels, Aaron Neville, and Lee Greenwood.

He has performed as a platform artist with Prison Fellowship and Chuck Colson. He remembers a specific time while working with the prison ministry. “I was sick while I did a show at the Tallahassee federal prison. God gave me strength to do the show and there was a standing ovation! We have done shows for thousands of inmates.”

Barry has won ‘Comedian of the Year’ seventeen times from numerous award shows such as CCMA/ICM (Christian Country Music Association) in Nashville, Tennessee, CGMA (Country Gospel Music Association, in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and the ICGMA (International Country Gospel Music Association) in West Plains, Missouri.

Barry shares a ministry that is close to his heart. “I am so very excited to have been appointed Director of Outreach with Hasten International. They are a very unique Medical Missions Ministry that is impacting people in different parts of the world!”

Barry says this scripture has been an inspiration in his work for the Lord: “Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have.” - 2nd Corinthians 8:11.

Barry recently signed with Grace Records Nashville and released his first single to radio, *What’ll I Do*. An event with Barry McGee is a fast-moving musical comedy show with ministry emphasis.

Barry concludes, “My biggest and most special blessing in my whole life (next to Jesus) is my wife Donna of 47 years! Right after I was saved at fourteen years old, we met at a church function and God put us together for the rest of our lives! How did God know what I would need for many years to come? She gave me two of the greatest children on planet earth, Jessica and Jordan. They are incredible leaders in many settings! Thank you, Lord and THANK YOU, LORD!”

[www.barrymcgee.org](http://www.barrymcgee.org)

# TROY BURNS FAMILY



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*CV* Chapel  
Valley



By Robin Tanner

## Three Amazingly Talented Sisters



The Bennett Hall Band - Kat, Presley Rose, and Josie Hope Hall are proud Tennessee natives.

The girls started singing with a love for performing at an early age. Having a love for God, their family, and music, these talented ladies have a bright future ahead of them.

**K**at, who is fifteen years old, chose to take a voice class over a dance class at the age of six. At fifteen months younger, Presley Rose, who is fourteen, followed in her sister's footsteps. She took to the keys in such a way that it wasn't long before it was clear that she had an ear for pitch. Harmonies quickly followed and the pair was singing live at ages seven and eight. That began the musical journey of what would eventually be The Bennett Hall Band. Kat picked up the guitar at nine years old so she could begin songwriting and accompanying herself. Four months after her first lesson, she played it on stage for a live audience. Presley Rose developed a love for all instruments and became the band's utility player at age ten, playing keys, bass, upright bass, ukulele and even some harmonica. Presley is able to take any song to the next level.

Josie Hope has been on the stage since the tender age of three years old. She began waiting in the crowd for her turn to sing, while visiting and doing remarkable PR work for the band! Josie currently plays drums while singing and playing on multiple songs. Josie Hope is ten years old and is the highlight of the live shows with her huge personality and even larger vocals!

The trio is unstoppable, playing all over middle Tennessee on stages at venues like The Station Inn, Lower Broadway, Mellow Mushroom, Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Room, The Johnny Cash Hideaway Farm, Kimbro's Pickin' Parlor, Puckett's, Hop Springs, The Franklin Main Street Festival, and The Broken Wheel Festival. With experience under their belt and the ability to accompany themselves on more than fifty cover songs and dozens of originals, The Bennett Hall Band is taking the Nashville music scene by storm.

Kat, Presley and Josie have shared the stage with several notable artists including Jamie Johnson, Lee Brice, Randy Houser, Dennis Quaid, and Cody Jinks. They shared the stage at the Station Inn with 45 RPM which includes famed musicians Jimmy Melton, Joe Spivey, and ACM steel guitar player of the year Mike Johnson. They sang the National Anthem at Oceanway Studio BMI that has aired all over the country. The girls have led Youth Worship at Grace Church Nashville. Kat won Nashville's Got Talent Youth Division at eleven and Presley got third place in Steinway Competition at age nine years old.

This talented trio says, “It can be difficult putting in the work, balancing school and music, and having time for fun and friends. We have been singing on stages since we were seven, six, and three. We believe this is a calling and God gave us a gift to help others and spread joy through our music and we want to honor Him. We have been greatly blessed with some awesome friends that we have had since we were in elementary school that are so supportive and wonderful. Some of our best friends are guys, they don’t really care what we do on stage, they just want to beat us at bowling or putt putt! We know God knew this would be a challenge. That is why He gave us each other! We are very close, and we have a lot of fun together.”

The girls add, “We want to encourage young girls to embrace their own gifts and celebrate the gifts of their friends. We are all uniquely made in the image of God. No one was skipped over! We want to spread hope and joy and light and to encourage our generation to find their gifts and use them to honor God.”

They released their first full album, “Say Yes” on May 1, 2023 which is available on all streaming platforms and on CD for purchase on their website. The project has offered a few singles including the title cut. Be looking for their next single to be dropped this fall, *We Love Country Music*. It’s a fun, up tempo sing-along that the fans will love.

Recently, these siblings played the Ryman and BMI Block Party Stage at CMA Fest which was an awesome experience for the band. The band has a collective goal in mind: They all hope to play the Grand Ole Opry before Kat turns sixteen. At every show the band will sing at least one song that shares their faith. Kat will introduce it with “Ok ya’ll, we are going to take you to church with this one.” This could be any song from *Amazing Grace* to *My Jesus* (Anne Wilson). They realize that this boldness won’t always be received well in every concert setting, especially at a bar or listening room. Kat shares, “Our hope is the audience is enjoying our show so much they’ll be listening to whatever we sing, and it will give us the opportunity to plant a seed in the heart of someone that is lost.”

The girls’ mother Melanie shares some insight into her children’s lives. “Bennett is our third child, due fourteen months after Presley. He is our only boy and died at birth as a result of being born too early from a ruptured placenta. He lives with Jesus, but these girls talk about him all of the time. Ironically, our youngest Josie Hope, who came along two years later, was born only four gestational weeks later than Bennett at 24 weeks. She was born early for the same reason!



She was 11lb 4oz at birth and spent 106 days in the NICU, on a ventilator for the first eight weeks! She is, by all definitions, an absolute miracle. They warned us that she may not be able to live a “normal life.” Well, I guess they were right about that!! She is exceptional in every way and a huge testimony to the power of prayer and faith. She has her own Facebook page, Josie Hope Hall, you can see the history there. When we sat down as a family to name the band, my husband Shawn suggested we somehow honor Bennett in the name, and thus the girls decided not to just honor him but to name the band after him. His name lives on in their music, band merch, website etc. It is really amazing to witness. That’s how they became The Bennett Hall Band!”

They want to continue to build a platform in music and use it to help others and shine the light and love of Jesus; to encourage their generation to follow their dreams, make their own path, and use their gifts to honor the kingdom of God.

[www.thebennethallband.com](http://www.thebennethallband.com)

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## SPECIAL SECTION

The Gospel Music Fan Awards were established in 2005 to honor the legends, acknowledge accomplishments and recognize fan favorites within the Gospel music industry. Recipients are decided upon solely by Gospel music fans and enthusiasts through a two-ballot voting process once annually. This is the first, the official open nomination ballot.

The second and final ballot listing the top ten nominees in each category will be published in March 1, 2024. Awards will be given as winners are announced at the 2024 Gospel Music Fan Awards program on May 11, 2024, during the 20th annual Gospel Music FanFair in Fayette, Alabama.

### Official 2024 Gospel Music Fan Awards Nomination Ballot

- Please enter only one nominee in each category. • Nomination ballot must be submitted by February 1, 2024 to be counted.
- Only one ballot per person may be submitted. Duplicate ballots will not be counted. Photocopies are not accepted.
- Ballots submitted without required information will not be counted. (First/Last name, address, phone number)

*\*\*Alternatively, vote online at [www.christianvoicemagazine.com](http://www.christianvoicemagazine.com)*

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# Where Are They Now?

A Retrospective Glimpse at Yesterday's Rising Music Stars  
Who Became Icons and Where They Are Today

## THIS EDITION: Deniece Williams

By Robin Tanner



**D**escribed as “one of the great soul voices” by the BBC, Deniece Williams first achieved success as an award-winning singer, songwriter, and producer in the 1970s and ‘80s. She is best known for the songs *Free*, *Silly*, *It's Gonna Take a Miracle*, and two Billboard Hot 100 No.1 singles *Let's Hear It for the Boy* and *Too Much, Too Little, Too Late* (with Johnny Mathis).

Deniece Williams was born in Gary, Indiana and grew up singing in the Church of God in Christ. Her favorite vocalists were Carmen McRae and Nancy Wilson, and she was also inspired by her parents, both of whom sang. From 1968 through 1970, while in her late teens, Williams recorded six singles for the Chicago-based Toddlin' Town label. None of the singles charted, but *I'm Walking Away* and *Mama, I Wish I Stayed at Home* became favorites of the U.K.'s northern soul scene. Williams temporarily left music behind to pursue nursing education and steady employment and started a family.

Through her cousin, Williams met Stevie Wonder - another one of her favorites - backstage at a concert. This led to an audition and her joining Wonderlove, Wonder's group of background vocalists. Williams performed and recorded

with the Motown artist for a three-year period that included the sessions for “Talking Book,” “Fulfillingness' First Finale,” and “Songs in the Key of Life.” During this time, Williams contributed background vocals to recordings by numerous other artists ranging from Don Everly and Kenny Rankin to Esther Phillips and Roberta Flack. She also co-wrote material for the Soul Train Gang (including the Wonder-arranged, *Baby Open the Door*, featuring her on co-lead vocals) and Merry Clayton (*How'd I Know*.)

Williams pursued a solo career and signed a production deal with Maurice White and Charles Stepney and joined the roster of Columbia Records, home to White's band, Earth, Wind & Fire. Williams released her first album, “This Is Niecy,” in 1976. Produced by Stepney and White, it featured the number 2 hit *Free*, which also crossed over to number 25 on the Hot 100. *Cause You Love Me Baby* and *That's What Friends Are For* also charted. Williams co-wrote all three of the singles, and among the deep cuts was *Slip Away*.

Williams' second album, recorded in the wake of Stepney's death by heart attack, yielded the Top 20 soul single *Baby, Baby My Love's All for You*. After that, she connected with fellow Columbia artist Johnny Mathis for *Too Much, Too Little, Too Late*, which was a number one hit on the Soul, and Adult Contemporary charts. Its success led to the duet partners making the album, “That's What Friends Are For.”



Williams changed direction somewhat with her third solo album, her first to bear the imprint of Maurice White's Columbia-distributed ARC (short for American Recording Company). Released in 1979, "When Love Comes Calling" saw Williams work separately with David Foster and Ray Parker, Jr. as co-producers. The biggest single from the album was *I've Got the Last Dance*.

Williams had two more LPs to cut for ARC. "My Melody" and "Niecy," respectively released in 1981 and 1982, were well-received collaborations with Philly Soul originator Thom Bell. That resulted in the singer's third gold album (for the former), Top 20 soul entries with *What Two Can Do* and *Silly*, and a number one soul hit with *It's Gonna Take a Miracle*, her first Grammy-nominated recording (for 'Best R&B Vocal Performance, Female'). In '82, Williams and Mathis were heard together again on the theme for the television sitcom *Family Ties*, *Without Us*.

Williams moved back to Columbia records for her next two albums teaming up with George Duke. In 1983 she released "I'm So Proud," highlighted by the number nine Black Singles hit *Do What You Feel*, earned Williams' second Grammy nomination for 'Best R&B Performance' and was followed by another hit duet with Mathis, an update of *Love Won't Let Me Wait*.

Deneice was approached by Paramount to record the bubbly *Let's Hear It for the Boy* for the soundtrack of "Footloose." The song scored a global hit that in the U.S. alone topped the Hot 100, Black Singles, and Dance charts. *Next Love* also charted from the album "Let's Hear It for the Boy," which was among the nominees for 'Best R&B Performance' in the female category. *Let's Hear It for the Boy* itself was nominated for a Grammy in the pop performance field.

Rather than take advantage of her considerable Pop momentum, Williams opted to record her first Contemporary Gospel album. The decision wasn't all that surprising given that her LPs dating back to "This Is Niecy" contained faith-based material. *Whiter Than Snow* was nominated for a Grammy as 'Best Inspirational Song.' "So Glad I Know" arrived on the Sparrow label in 1986 and fared well on Billboard's Gospel and Christian charts. It garnered three Grammy nominations. Williams took the award for 'Best Soul Gospel Performance, Female' (*I Surrender All*) and with featured guest Sandi Patty won 'Best Gospel Performance by a Duo or Group, Choir or Chorus' for *They Say*, the solo original version of which appeared on "I'm So Proud."

Williams continued to release secular material, too. Her Gospel recordings for Sparrow resumed in 1989 with "Special Love" and guest appearances on "Children in Praise" by the West Angeles Church of God in Christ Angelic Choir. By the end of the decade, she was nominated for four additional Grammys, winning 'Best Gospel Performance, Female' for *I Believe in You* (off "Water Under the Bridge"). During the '90s, Williams made guest appearances on albums by the likes of Nancy Wilson, George Duke, and Stevie Wonder and

released three Gospel albums on as many labels. "Lullabies to Dreamland" was issued in 1991, trailed five years later by "Love Solves It All." The third one, "This Is My Song," won the 1998 Grammy award for 'Best Pop/Contemporary Gospel Album.'

Nine years passed before her next release, "Love, Niecy Style," on which she covered R&B classics spanning the '60s, '70s, and early '80s. Duke, Wonder, and Earth, Wind & Fire's Philip Bailey were among the collaborators on the album, produced by Bobby Eli, a Philly Soul vet who worked on Williams' early '80s sessions with Thom Bell.

Williams' soaring, four-octave soprano voice made her one of the most distinctive talents to arrive during the Soul era. Since her recording debut in 1968, she established herself in the 70s, first as part of Stevie Wonder's Wonderlove, then as a songwriter, and finally as a solo artist who could also produce and arrange her own material while partnering with R&B and Jazz giants.



Williams, now 73, has continued to perform and act, and has recorded the occasional single, such as the independently released 2020 track *When You Love Somebody*. This was followed by a new EP titled "Gemini," released in the fall of 2021. On June 30, 2021, she was honored as one of the first ever inductees into the Women Songwriters Hall of Fame. In the Spring of this year, Williams was also bestowed with the keys to the city of Kingston, Jamaica.

# Loni Handman



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## Artist Spotlight

### BILL ABERNATHY

Having been born in a condemned hospital, Bill Abernathy, the accomplished singer/songwriter from Kansas City, began his remarkable journey from humble beginnings. Throughout his life, in both his musical and corporate careers, he has embraced challenging transformations and trials, defying standard conventions and stereotypes all along the way.

Since his breakthrough in 2017 with the album "Find A Way," Bill has been leaving an indelible mark on the music world. His chart-topping single, *Goodbye Will Never Come Again*, soared to the #1 spot on the Roots Music Chart, setting the stage for an unconventional musical journey.

Continuing his musical odyssey with the hit-filled album "Crossing Willow Creek," Bill showcased the unforgettable national radio hit, *Cry Wolf*, along with three more international hits that resonated across borders, captivating audiences worldwide.

Notably, Bill's deeply engaging track, *Who Are You, Who Am I*, from his 2021 EP, earned him recognition as a finalist for 'Song of the Year' - an acknowledgment of his captivating artistry.



Bill's new album "More" is a captivating musical journey that navigates the Rock genre with finesse and heart. Abernathy's ability to blend various styles and themes within a single album is a testament to his artistry and vision. The album offers a rich and varied listening experience that leaves a lasting impact, and it's a must listen for fans of Rock and Country.

Bill Abernathy's music has resonated profoundly with fans worldwide, garnering millions of global streams. His expressive voice, exceptional songwriting, and storytelling abilities have forged a lasting bond with listeners, establishing him as a beloved artist among music enthusiasts across the globe.

If you haven't yet joined the Abernathy fan club, now is the perfect time to immerse yourself in his musical world.

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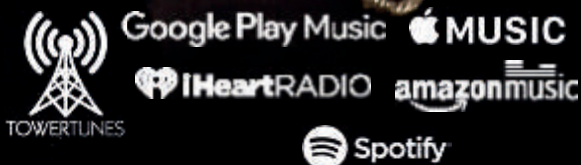
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## Artist Spotlight

# NIECIE

“Pursue your dreams or you will never be able to live with yourself.” These were words spoken to Nieceie from her mother when she was on her deathbed dying of cancer. These words ignited the passion inside Nieceie to pursue her talents and embark on her musical journey. Acknowledging the gifts and talents from a higher power and coming from a place of gratitude and blessings has contributed to Nieceie’s success.

Cashbox Magazine in 2013 described Nieceie as a “raw and soulful... rocking Blues powerhouse.” Produced by Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award winner former Allman Brothers Johnny Neel, Nieceie’s music has topped charts all over the world landing on Billboard, RMR and Living Blues charts. The multi-talented Nieceie has been sharing her high-energy music around the world for more than three decades. Releasing six albums and several singles thus far, Nieceie has stayed true to her Rock and Blues roots and has grooved her way into the hearts of fans all across the globe.

Nieceie’s latest CD, “Queen Of The Hill,” received acclaimed reviews far and wide in The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, France, and The UK. Nieceie was featured in esteemed magazines such as Blues Music Magazine and Blues Matters in the UK. “Queen Of The Hill” recently won ‘Female Album Of The Year’ at the International Singer Songwriters Award in Atlanta. *Willow Tree*, one of the hit singles, won ‘Blues of Blues Original’ at the Red Carpet Awards in the Netherlands.

Nieceie’s illustrious career has had many special moments and accolades, including being voted ‘Fan Favorite’ by the L.A. Music Critics Award and named one of the Top 25 Women In Music by Blues-E News Magazine. Deeply rooted in the Blues / Rock traditions, she makes music on her own terms. She is a stand-alone talent. Well known for her incredible live performances, she is also a force to be reckoned with in the studio. Here is a powerful voice with an original style all her own. Her versatility as a songwriter is equally impressive.

What gives the Blues its soulful power is its ability to cut through the gloss and spit shine polish to deliver raw, uncut, unfiltered emotional truth. You can’t sing the Blues if you don’t know, because the Blues will strip you down and leave you exposed by the side of the road. Born and raised in the Motor City, Nieceie’s uncompromising vocals contain the



knowing scars of that truth, and the result is a sound that infuses elements of her own story into every song she sings, making it her own. She never gave a song a choice. That’s just Nieceie.

Exposed to much of the best that the music world has to offer simply by growing up in Detroit, Nieceie developed her own style by absorbing bits and pieces from what she heard as a youngster who was laser-focused on having her own career one day. Whether it was Rock, Motown, Blues, or Jazz, if it had something Nieceie could use, she latched onto it.

Throughout the course of her career, Nieceie has performed in every state in the U.S. except for eight. She has blown the crowds away at festivals worldwide including the Cancun Jazz Festival, Jackson Bluesfest, Blues On The Hill, and East Port Bluesfest, to name a few. Nieceie is no stranger to the most renown clubs on the circuit, having performed at the House of Blues, B.B. King’s, Hard Rock Café, Manny’s Car Wash, and several guest appearances at Buddy Guy’s Legend.

Nieceie is acclaimed for her high energy performances and leaving it all on the stage. Compared to top entertainers, Blues Blast Magazine dotes, “If you are an entertainer that is going to go by one name (like Sting, Cher or Bono), you had better have the talent to back it up, and Nieceie passes this test easily.”

How Nieceie fell into the Blues is quite a story. During a gig with a Rock band while on tour in Lincoln Nebraska, Nieceie stepped outside on set break. As fortune would have it, she didn’t know that her set had been overheard by none other than Bluesman extraordinaire Magic Slim, who also happened to be on break from his gig at the Zoo Bar. Slim approached Nieceie and said, “Girl, you need to sing the Blues,” and invited her to join him on stage at the Zoo Bar. The rest, as they say, is history.

For more information on Nieceie please visit:  
[www.airplaydirect.com/NieceieCrossTheLineAndQueenOfTheHill](http://www.airplaydirect.com/NieceieCrossTheLineAndQueenOfTheHill)



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## Oliver Anthony Announces Birth of Third Child

Oliver Anthony and his wife Tiffany have welcomed a baby boy into the world. The viral hitmaker shared the news with his followers on Wednesday, October 18 alongside a photo of the newborn baby.

Hours before the birth of his son, Anthony teased his impending arrival. He shared a selfie from the hospital room as well as a photo of him sleeping in the infamous hospital recliner.

"The baby boy may be making an appearance today. Have been at the hospital since 12am. Will keep y'all updated!" Anthony wrote on October 17, just one day prior to welcoming his third child.



## Oliver Anthony and newborn son, Amos

According to ERLDC (Electronic Regional Lifestyle Digital Corner), Oliver Anthony and his wife named their third child, Amos. The newborn baby boy joins his two older children, whose names have yet to be disclosed to the public.

Oliver Anthony's newborn arrived just weeks after the "Rich Men North Of Richmond" singer signed his first-ever industry deal - a booking agent. This year, Oliver Anthony stands out as one of the most remarkable success stories in the music industry. His extraordinary journey kicked off in August when he independently released his now chart-topping track, Rich Men North of Richmond, which has struck a chord with people across the United States.

Anthony signed with United Talent Agency (UTA), a leading global talent, sports, entertainment, and advisory company, for exclusive worldwide representation in all areas.

"I am pleased to announce that I hired two gentlemen in Nashville to help me with creating the 2024 tour," Anthony wrote at the time. "We're going to be all over the US, and even doing some international travel. There's no way I can pull that off by myself. Curt and Jeffery at UTA do all the legwork to make the performances happen safely and professionally."

Anthony continued, "As I said early on, I am not signing any deals or selling any percentage of my music. There's no amount of money that is worth risking the direct line of communication you and I currently have."

## Gary Matheny Named 'Artist of the Year', Akademia Music Awards

Recently Gary Matheny was awarded Akademia Music Awards 'Artist of the Year' (Americana) with his award-winning song *Juliette* and nominated for Hall of Fame. The Awards Gala was held on July 28, 2023, and was a streamed event.

In June of 2022, *Juliette* won the song of the month (Americana category) and charted #1 in September 2022 on Berkshire Media Hot XR Southwest Music Network. *Juliette* was played globally 92,393 times between June 2022 and April 2023.

On August 11, 2023, Matheny was notified that he will be inducted into the Akademia Hall of Fame on May 18, 2024 at the 2024 Awards Gala in Los Angeles, California.

In March 2023, *Rosalee* - another award-winning song written and recorded by Gary was named Country Song of the Month.

The Akademia Music Awards is dedicated to recognizing top musical talent from across the globe.



## An All-Star Salute to Lee Greenwood in Theaters Veterans Day Weekend

An All-Star Salute to Lee Greenwood is coming to a theater near you, featuring star-studded performances of Greenwood's career hit songs. This one-night-only event will premiere in movie theaters across the United States over Veterans Day 2023 weekend, Sunday, November 12, just in time to honor those who served this great nation. Dolly Parton, Kid Rock, Paula Deen, and President George W. Bush will join in on the festivities to honor Greenwood with special video moments throughout the show.



Also, as a part of the event, Concerts 4 A Cause, a 501c3 organization, has teamed up with Greenwood to allow the public to sponsor a veteran and their guest/caregiver to enjoy the spectacular live concert event. Tickets to see this amazing tribute concert are available at [fathomevents.com](http://fathomevents.com). If you can't attend but want to sponsor a veteran and their caregiver to attend, go to [adoptavet.com](http://adoptavet.com).

An All-Star Salute to Lee Greenwood includes performances by Dustin Lynch, Lee Brice, Michael Ray, Michael W. Smith + The Isaacs, The Oak Ridge Boys, Tracy Lawrence, Big & Rich, Jamey Johnson, Gavin DeGraw, Scott Stapp of Creed, Crystal Gayle, Sam Moore + T. Graham Brown, Larry Gatlin + Debby Boone, Mark Wills, Home Free, The Frontmen, Ty Herndon + Janie Fricke, and more.

Lee Greenwood, a Country music icon whose songs have been cherished for years, was honored with each artist gracing the stage performing one of his songs. More than twenty artists, forty years of hits, and a sold-out arena proved that 'America's patriot' Lee Greenwood continues to shine and impact lives everywhere he goes.

**Tom Wopat To Reunite with Dukes of Hazzard TV Co-Stars John Schneider, Catherine Bach and More For 2023 Gallatin Comic Con**

Dukes of Hazzard star Tom Wopat (Luke Duke) will reunite with his former hit TV series co-stars John Schneider (Bo Duke) and Catherine Bach (Daisy Duke) at the 2023 Gallatin Comic Con on November 11-12 beginning at 10am CT at the Gallatin Civic Center. Meet and greets and appearances are also scheduled with co-stars Rick Hurst (Deputy Cletus Hogg), and Byron Cherry (Coy Duke). A complete lineup and list of celebrity guests is located at [www.townsquarerecordsandcomics.com](http://www.townsquarerecordsandcomics.com) and tickets are available through Eventbrite.

Also, an established and respected singer-songwriter, Wopat is currently promoting his latest album, the eclectic "Simple Man," his 13th solo release as a recording artist. The album is highlighted by one of his own self-written songs, *County Line*, a Country Blues tune that is also the namesake for his new movie trilogy now available on INSP Networks.



**Tom Wopat with Byron Cherry at Hazzard Fest 2023**

Photo: Jason W. Ashcraft

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### The Marshall Tucker Band and Jefferson Starship to Blast Off on 2024 'Live on Cloud 9 Tour'

Two iconic bands are coming together for a historic road show next year, bringing their collective hits to American audiences across the nation. Legendary Southern Rock group The Marshall Tucker Band (MTB) and Rock staple Jefferson Starship recently announced their joint 'Live on Cloud 9 Tour.' The first leg of the tour, nine concerts (with more to come), have been announced with stops in California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington state.



The two bands have a history dating back to the 1970s, and MTB lead singer Doug Gray couldn't be more thrilled about reuniting with Jefferson Starship. "We have a storied history with Jefferson Starship," explains Gray. "We toured together many years ago and the timing feels right for us to reunite. We're on Cloud 9!"

"We are really looking forward to touring with our buddies, The Marshall Tucker Band," says Donny Baldwin of Jefferson Starship. "We toured back in the day, and it will be a great night of music from two iconic bands. See you there!"

"We will be announcing many more dates very soon," adds Gray. "Keep an eye out for stops near your hometown!"

The tour kicks off February 29 at the Sycuan Casino Resort in El Cajon, California. For more information, visit [marshalltucker.com](http://marshalltucker.com) or [jeffersonstarship.com](http://jeffersonstarship.com).

### Wynonna to Host NBC Christmas Special, 'Christmas at the Opry'

Wynonna Judd has signed on to host a new television special this December. 'Christmas at the Opry' will feature festive performances from some of Country music's most acclaimed acts and rising artists.

Filmed at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, the two-hour-long musical event features performances from influential *Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree* vocalist Brenda Lee, Kelly Clarkson, Lauren Alaina, Trace Adkins, Mickey Guyton, Chris Janson, Chrissy Metz, BRELAND, Meghan Patrick, Adam Doleac, and Mitchell Tenpenny. Viewers can expect to hear a mixture of familiar holiday classics, original hits, and unique collaborations, according to a press release.

The television event will mark Judd's first appearance on the Grand Ole Opry House stage since the inaugural People's Choice Country Awards. She was presented with the first Country Champion Award during the ceremony, recognizing her activism and philanthropic efforts throughout her career. During her powerful acceptance speech, Judd opened up about the challenges she faced while moving forward after her mother and duo partner, Naomi Judd, passed away by suicide on April 30, 2022.



Judd has embarked on her 'Back to Wy Tour,' which revisits the songs from her first two solo records, "Wynonna" (1992) and "Tell Me Why" (1993). The tour began in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 26 with stops at cities across the U.S. through December 1. You can find a complete list of her upcoming tour dates and additional ticketing information via Wynonna Judd's official website.

Christmas at the Opry will air December 7, beginning at 8 p.m. ET on NBC. The special will also be available to stream exclusively on Peacock the following day.

### Barbie® Celebrates the Iconic "Queen of Rock and Roll," Stevie Nicks

Barbie® celebrates the iconic "Queen of Rock and Roll," Stevie Nicks, with a Barbie® doll in her likeness. Nicks achieved worldwide success with the band Fleetwood Mac before embarking on a critically acclaimed, chart-topping solo career. Known for her captivating stage presence and signature style, she has left an indelible imprint on artists and fans around the world.

Stevie Nicks Music Series Barbie® doll wears a beguiling black dress inspired by the legendary 1977 "Rumours" album cover and holds her iconic tambourine, ready to groove on a moonlit stage with her flowy blonde hair, full textured bangs, and smoky eye.



Cashbox News & Scoops continued on page 48 >>>

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**Usher to Headline Halftime Show for 2024 Super Bowl**

The *Yeah!* singer will be performing the halftime show at Allegiant Stadium on February 11 in Las Vegas. The eight-time Grammy winner spoke about the honor on a live TV interview. "This is a moment that I've waited my entire life for, and I am not coming to disappoint," he told CBS Mornings' Gayle King, Tony Dokoupil and Nate Bursleson. "This is going to be a celebration."

Usher, who joined the interview virtually from Paris, said he learned of the news "literally days before the announcement." "The hardest part is really the suspense," he said of having to keep the secret from his friends and family.

The CBS co-anchors then asked which of his multitude of hits he would try to squeeze into the 13-minute show. "I definitely have a long list of people whom I've collaborated with and also a long list of songs that mean something so much to people - for every experience that I've had, there's a song," Usher went on to add, "So I'm trying to figure out how to entertain people, make certain the legacy, enjoy the moment, and make certain they'll have a show they'll never forget."

This will mark Usher's second Super Bowl appearance, as he previously performed with the Black Eyed Peas back in 2011, but his first time as the headlining artist. "It's an honor of a lifetime to finally check a Super Bowl performance off my bucket list. I can't wait to bring the world a show unlike anything else they've seen from me before. Thank you to the fans and everyone who made this opportunity happen," he continued. "I'll see you real soon."



During his interview with CBS, Usher expanded on the honor: "Thirty years ago, I made a commitment to offer my best and here thirty years later now, it's being rewarded with one of the most prestigious performances and stages anybody could ever play on," he said.

"I'm humbled by the opportunity to do that, but I'm more happy to be able to celebrate with the people that I love the most, you know what I'm saying, and celebrate in a way that people will remember through dance, through skate, through collaboration, so it's going to be a night of celebration," Usher continued.

"Every aspect of what has influenced me to be the artist that I am, I'm gonna try to bring that out of me in that moment. And I thank God."

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**Juandolyn Stokes Inducted into The National Black Radio Hall of Fame**

Juandolyn Stokes, a radio legend with nearly forty-five years in the industry, was inducted into the National Black Radio Hall of Fame in the category of "Best Talk Radio Show Personality," Saturday, October 7, 2023.

This year's inductees include Tom Joyner, Big Tigger, Erica Campbell, Terri Avery, Gladys Knight and the Pips, and many more prestigious honorees. The annual induction ceremony honoring personalities is the National Black Radio Hall of Fame's biggest night, an "evening to remember."

Stokes is Atlanta's leading black female radio talk show host, ranking in the top five of black female talk radio hosts. Through Audacy Atlanta broadcast network, she engages her audience and listeners with daily news and talk on her No. 1 rated weekday talk show, "On Point with Juandolyn Stokes" on 1380 WAOK Radio.

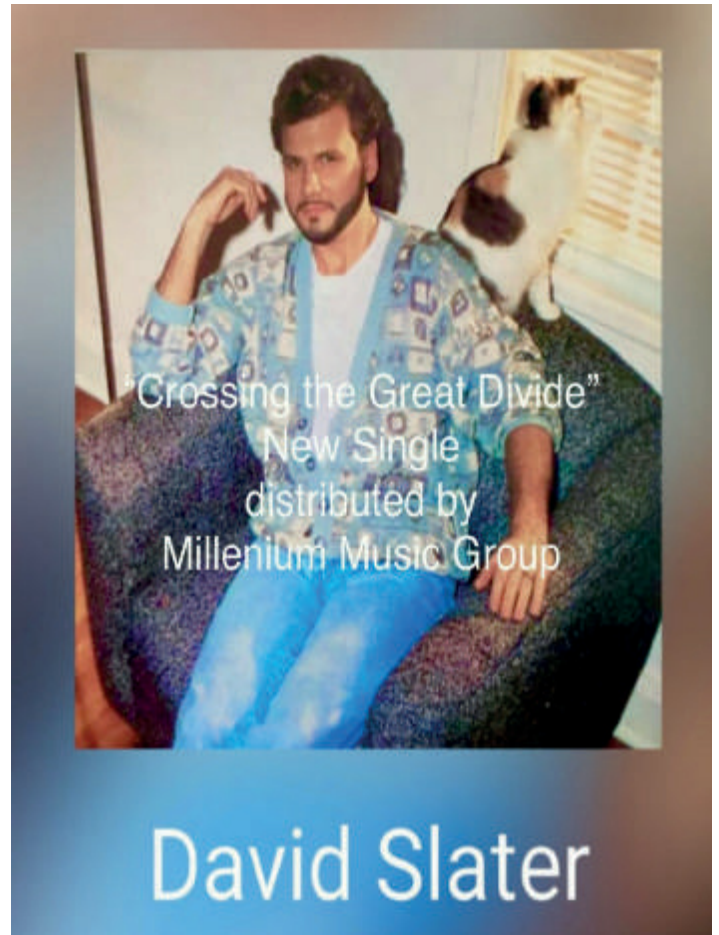


Her radio career began in 1979 at WSOK Radio in Savannah, Georgia. Stokes then continued in radio at WCLK Radio of Clark Atlanta University and at News & Talk 1380 WAOK. Her highly rated show has gained notoriety and recognition from her listeners and the community. She was recognized for her contributions in radio by Atlanta City Councilman Michael Julian Bond. She was given a Georgia Radio Legend Radio honoree award at the State Capitol from the Georgia Senate. Her work in radio broadcasting includes these additional markets -WPEG (Charlotte, NC), KMAX (Los Angeles, CA.) and WGLB (Milwaukee, WI). Her syndicated radio career includes the Sheridan Gospel Network, Bobby Jones Gospel Radio Show, Inspirations Across America and the Rejoice Radio Network.

Juandolyn was awarded "Announcer of the Year" from the Stellar Awards Committee and received the GMWA 'Gospel Radio Personality of the Year' Award. As a show producer, creator, and writer, she has worked with National Public Radio (NPR) and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB).

She has worked in every facet of radio, from management to programming, sales, hosting, production and news writing.

*Cashbox News & Scoops continued on page 52 >>>*



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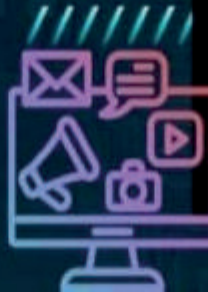
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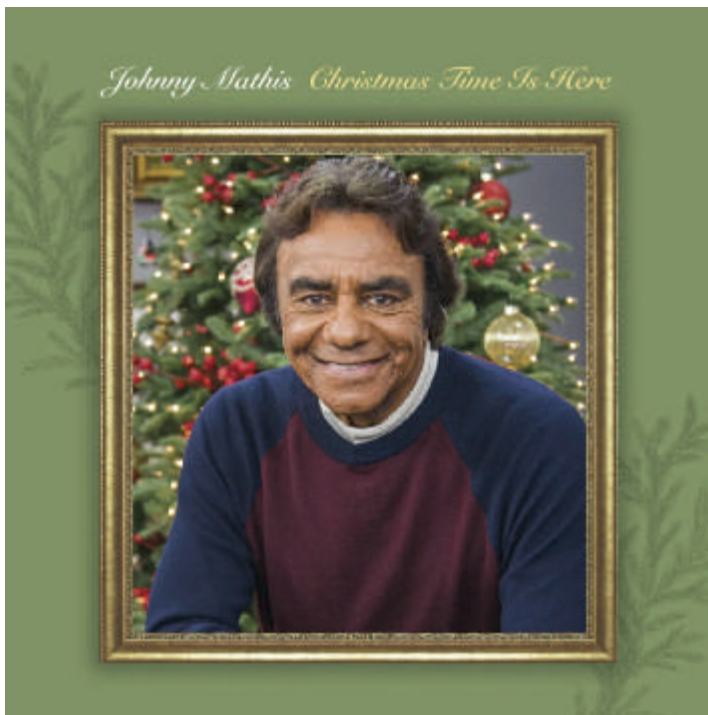
Award Winning Recording Artist

## GARY MATHENY



### **Johnny Mathis Releases Much Anticipated Christmas Album in a Decade**

Johnny Mathis has continued to release new holiday music throughout the past 65 years. Starting with his debut, "Merry Christmas," in 1958, Mathis went on to release several more holiday albums, including "Sounds of Christmas" (1963), "Give Me Your Love for Christmas" (1969), "Christmas Eve With Johnny Mathis" (1986), "The Christmas Album" (2002), and his Grammy-nominated "Sending You a Little Christmas" in 2013, featuring collaborations with Natalie Cole, Billy Joel, Gloria Estefan, Vince Gill, Amy Grant, and more.



It's been a decade and now Mathis is releasing his seventh holiday album "Christmas Time is Here," out now. Named after the Vince Guaraldi and Lee Mendelson-composed song of the same name for the 1965 animated TV special A Charlie Brown Christmas, the ten-track album features newly recorded holiday songs and expands on his 2022 *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*.

The album was produced by the singer's longtime collaborator Jay Landers (Barbra Streisand, Bette Midler, Andrea Bocelli) - who worked on 13 albums with Mathis - along with Fred Mollin (Kristin Chenoweth, Jimmy Webb, Natalie Cole, Billy Joel), who collaborated with him on "Let It Be Me: Mathis in Nashville" (2010) and "Sending You a Little Christmas," which featured collaborations with Natalie Cole, Billy Joel, Gloria Estefan, Vince Gill, Amy Grant, and more.

Recorded at the Capitol Recording Studio in Hollywood, California, and Nashville, Tennessee, "Christmas Time is Here" features Mathis' renditions of holiday classics, including *Blue Christmas*, a remake of Johnny's No. 1 U.K. single, and the title track from A Charlie Brown Christmas. Several holiday standards also fill out the album, including *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, *When a Child is Born*, *Merry Christmas, Baby*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem* and *Santa Claus is Coming to Town* featuring Kristin Chenoweth.

### **Matthew West Presented with ASCAP Golden Note Award**

ASCAP, the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers, the only US performance rights organization that operates on a not-for-profit basis honored the songwriters and publishers of Christian music's 25 most-performed songs of the past year at an exclusive celebration for its ASCAP Christian Music Award winners in Nashville.

After personal remarks from film star Dennis Quaid (who recently released "Fallen: A Gospel Record for Sinners"), ASCAP Chairman of the Board and President Paul Williams presented artist and songwriter Matthew West with the ASCAP Golden Note Award, a special honor for songwriters, composers and artists who have achieved extraordinary career milestones.

A five-time Grammy nominee, West has had cuts by Rascal Flatts, Scotty McCreery, Casting Crowns (including back-to-back #1 singles), Michael W. Smith, and Amy Grant, among others, and has notched 30 #1 songs as an artist and/or songwriter. Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Casting Crowns vocalist Mark Hall, Tim Tebow and more offered recorded messages of congratulations to mark the occasion.



Top honors were awarded to the following:

- Christian Music Songwriter of the Year: Brandon Lake
- ASCAP Golden Note Award: Matthew West
- Christian Music Song of the Year: *In Jesus Name (God of Possible)*, David Spencer, David Spencer Songs, Essential Music Publishing LLC
- Christian Music Publisher of the Year: Capitol CMG Publishing

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**Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Member and Former Lynyrd Skynyrd Drummer Artimus Pyle Releases "Anthems: Honoring the Music of Lynyrd Skynyrd" with Special Guests**

Long considered the "wild man" of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Artimus Pyle's powerful and distinctive double bass drumming helped define the legendary Skynyrd sound. Artimus got his first real break at the Charlie Daniels Volunteer Jam. His first recording lists - Artimus Pyle, percussion. Then with other work for the Marshall Tucker Band, Artimus became known as a powerful session drummer.



Using his connections with Charlie Daniels and Marshall Tucker, both acts that often toured with Skynyrd, Artimus met with Ronnie Van Zant and Ed King at Studio One in Doraville, Georgia. The results of that meeting - Saturday Night Special - greatly impressed Ronnie. Artimus' live debut with the band took place in Jacksonville's Sgt Pepper's Club in October 1974. He would replace their original drummer (Bob Burns) following the release of the group's second album, "Second Helping," and performed with the band and on Skynyrd's following four albums, "Nuthin' Fancy," "Gimme Back My Bullets," "Street Survivors," and their live album, "One More for the Road."



**Artimus Pyle**

Pyle was injured but survived the band's 1977 horrific plane crash that abruptly ended the lives of six people, including band members Steve and Cassie Gaines, and most notably, frontman and musical visionary Ronnie Van Zant.

Now, 45 years later, Artimus Pyle prepares for the release of his forthcoming Get Joe Records studio album honoring the music

that propelled him into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The album, which boasts 13 tracks, features special guests including Sammy Hagar, Dolly Parton, Marty Raybon, and others. The album will be released and distributed by BFD/Orchard on February 2, 2024.

"This project has been a year in the making, but when the fans hear it they will understand why it took so long," says Len Snow, Get Joe Records president. "Artimus is legendary within the Southern Rock space. The music that Lynyrd Skynyrd made will always live as a part of Rock history. This album honors that music and gives Artimus a way to honor his former bandmates."

Now in his 70s, Pyle still continues to honor Van Zant's musical legacy, recording and touring with the Artimus Pyle Band, now comprised of Pyle (drums), Scott Raines (guitar/vocals), Jerry Lyda (guitar) Brad Durden (keyboards/vocals), and Dave Fowler (bass).

**Garth Brooks Announces Dive Bar Concert for the Opening of His Friends in Low Places Bar & Honky-Tonk in Nashville**

It's the most anticipated bar opening of all time. Garth Brooks has announced a Dive Bar concert for the opening of his Friends in Low Places Bar & Honky-Tonk in Nashville on Black Friday, November 24. This historic event will be the first opportunity for fans to get in the bar. The only way in to the concert will be to win tickets by listening to The BIG 615 station on Tuneln.



Garth Brooks said, "How do you open a Friends in Low Places bar??? With a Garth concert! This is going to be off the chain. Black Friday, brand new bar, in the home of Country Music... Hollywood couldn't write a better script. I can NOT wait!"

Brooks's previous Dive Bar concert stops, inspired by *Dive Bar*, his duet with Blake Shelton, included Joe's on Weed Street in Chicago; Buck Owens' Crystal Palace in Bakersfield, CA; and Gruene Hall in New Braunfels, TX, amongst others. Now Friends in Low Places Bar & Honky Tonk will join the list!

The BIG 615 radio station can be heard on Garth Brooks's SEVENS Radio Network on Tuneln. With Storme Warren as the official voice, The BIG 615 offers listeners an authentic take on Country music that offers up the biggest songs and the biggest artists today.

# Bill Abernathy



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**MTS**

**Sammy Sadler Presents a Celebration of 80s and 90s Country Music with Special Guest Leon Everette**



**Leon Everette and Sammy Sadler**

Country music fans are invited to immerse in the unforgettable nostalgia of 80s and 90s Country music with a wide selection of hits, performed by acclaimed singer Sammy Sadler with special guest Leon Everette. The 90-minute show is a combination of great hits and a history told by two performers who were both there and experienced different parts of it.

In 1989, Sadler was a critically acclaimed newcomer to the Country music fold and had already charted several successful singles. He was ready to release his first album on Evergreen Records when tragedy struck. While out one evening on Nashville's famed 16th Avenue, he and friend Kevin Hughes were shot by a man wearing a ski mask. While Sammy survived, Hughes, who was the Cash Box Chart manager, did not. Details on why the shooting happened would reveal a payola scandal that brought down the magazine and rocked the Country music industry. It became known around the world as the Murder on Music Row. Through the pain and challenges, one thing never changed and that was Sadler's love for Country music. It was also his desire to get back out on the road performing for audiences.

Country legend Leon Everette has had nine Gold albums. His first record to make it to the top ten Billboard charts was "Over." This led to a recording contract with RCA in 1980, which garnered 11 straight top 10 records. One of those songs was Hurricane which peaked at #1 on the charts. He would go on to have two more #1 hits. Hurricane was so popular in Louisiana that he served as the Grand Marshall of Mardi Gras. Everette's popularity led to

his being the first Country artist ever to perform in Italy. He was nominated for 'New Male Vocalist of the Year' in 1981, had one of the biggest selling records of the year "Give Me What You Think Is Fair" in 1983, and his band (Hurricane) won 'Traveling Band of the Year' in 1983. He was also one of the first Country artists to perform at Wembley Stadium in London, England. Suffering from burnout in the mid 80s, Everette retired from the music industry and moved back to Ward, South Carolina where he became involved with several business endeavors.

In 1997, he became a born-again Christian, and devoted his time to his church. However, much to the delight of those who loved his music, he found time to start performing Country and Gospel music again. In early 2016 Leon was invited back to Nashville to record I Stand the Tallest When I'm Down On My Knees with longtime friend Little David Wilkins. The song ended up #1 for five weeks on the Christian Country Charts.

For more information, visit [www.sammysadler.com](http://www.sammysadler.com).

**Christmas Icon Mariah Carey Embarking on a Holiday Concert Tour**

"Yes, the actual defrosting has begun!" Carey wrote on social media while sharing a list of dates that includes stops in Los Angeles, Toronto, Detroit, Boston, and Baltimore.

Carey's 1994 album "Merry Christmas," which includes original songs like *All I Want for Christmas Is You* and covers of holiday season standards, is one of the best-selling holiday albums of all time. Just last year, the singer released a Christmas



concert special, "Mariah Carey: Merry Christmas to All!" on Hulu. "I rebuke time," Carey told Entertainment Weekly in 2019 about the song's 25th anniversary. "I have a thing where I just live outside the traditional realm of how we measure [it]. So, in that way, Santa and myself are very similar."

Carey's 'Merry Christmas, One and All!' tour kicks off November 15 in Highland, California before moving east through some of America's biggest cities and eventually wrapping up December 17 at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Visit [www.livenationentertainment.com](http://www.livenationentertainment.com) for more information.



**Tribute Quartet Renews Recording Agreement with Daywind Records, Commemorates Eight #1 Songs with the Label**

Tribute Quartet re-signed with Daywind Records, extending their highly successful long-term relationship. Tribute's Gary Casto, Josh Singletary, Gus Gaches, and Ian Owens were on hand with Daywind representatives to celebrate the past achievements and dream about the future. At the signing, the group was presented a plaque recognizing their eight #1's with Daywind Records.

Gary Casto, Tribute Quartet founder stated, "It is truly an honor for Tribute Quartet to continue our relationship with Daywind Records! Being a part of this great team allows us to share our music with the world. We look forward to many more years with our family at Daywind Records."

Dusty Wells, director of artists and repertoire for Daywind Music Group, commented, "Daywind Records has enjoyed a wonderful partnership with Tribute Quartet since 2013, and we are thrilled and honored to renew our partnership with them. Gary, Josh, Ian and Gus are absolutely incredible to work with. They are truly one of the finest quartets ministering today, and



**LtoR: Ian Owens, Josh Singletary, Gary Casto, Gus Gaches, (standing) Dusty Wells, Ed Leonard, Rick Shelton**

this re-signing will ensure that their amazing music will continue to inspire and uplift their audience of fans and friends all across the land. We are so excited to be on the journey with the Tribute Quartet."

Look for the group's latest installment in their Quartet Tribute series, "Tribute Quartet's Quartet Tribute Volume 3," wherever you buy or subscribe to music.

*Cashbox News & Scoops continued on page 60 >>>*

# RICKY LUSTER

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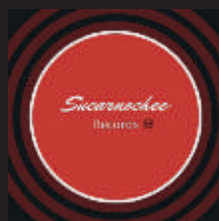
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### Rolling Stones Make Massive Decision After 20 Years

After nearly twenty years, the legendary Rolling Stones band is set to make music history once again. The band revealed plans to release their first album of new material in nearly two decades, signaling the dawn of a “new era” for the iconic band.



**Mick Jagger**

band expressed that “Hackney may be at the heart of Hackney Diamonds, but this is a truly global moment we want to share with fans around the world via YouTube.”

The thrilling announcement came shortly after 80-year-old Stones frontman Mick Jagger tantalized fans with hints of impending excitement from the band. He shared two captivating video clips depicting the formation of the Stones’ iconic logo - a mouth and tongue - using ice and diamonds. The captions in the posts directed fans to visit [www.hackneydiamonds.com](http://www.hackneydiamonds.com), a website that redirects visitors to a countdown on the band’s official site.

With classics like *Paint It Black*, *(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction*, and *Angie*, The Rolling Stones, often hailed as one of the greatest Rock bands in history, have left an indelible mark on the music world. The band formed in London in 1962.

### The Oak Ridge Boys Celebrate 50th Anniversary Milestone with Historic ‘American Made: Farewell Tour’

GRAMMY® Award-winning and Country Music Hall of Fame members, The Oak Ridge Boys celebrated their 50th Anniversary in October. With this celebration,

While the Rolling Stones have treated fans to live performances and remastered versions of their classic hits in recent years, “Hackney Diamonds” will be their first album featuring fresh original music since 2005.

Specific details about the upcoming album remain secret. However, the band has promised to unveil more information during a live YouTube broadcast alongside “The Tonight Show” host Jimmy Fallon. In a statement, the

The Oak Ridge Boys announced their ‘American Made: Farewell Tour.’ The group, Duane Allen (1966), Joe Bonsall (1973), William Lee Golden (1965), and Richard Sterban (1972) are excited to celebrate both milestones with fans with the announcement of this tour.

“We are doing a farewell tour because we owe it to our fans to say goodbye,” shares William Lee Golden. “They have always been there for us through the good times and the bad. I will always be thankful to every person who came out to a show, bought a t-shirt, played our music, and overall, loved us enough to spend their hard-earned money whenever they could. This tour is for you!”

“I want to thank God for fifty years of singing with three of my best friends and for the fans who have been there for us,” shares Richard Sterban. “This is a celebration, and we hope to see you there.”

Designated as America’s national anthem singers by the MENC (National Association for Music Educators), The Oak Ridge Boys released their #1 hit single, *American Made* in February 1983. Their love for God and country remains true to this day, and with this being the 40th Anniversary of the single, it seemed fitting to incorporate “American Made” into their farewell.

The Oak Ridge Boys have received four Academy of Country Music, two American Music, five Billboard, four Country Music Association, five Grammy, and twelve Gospel Music Association Dove awards, just to name a few. They are members of the Grand Ole Opry, the Gospel Music Hall of Fame, the Vocal Group Hall of



**THE OAK RIDGE BOYS**

**Joe Bonsall, Willaim Lee Golden, Duane Allen, Richard Sterban**

Fame, and the Country Music Hall of Fame. They have achieved seventeen #1 hits including *Leaving Louisiana In The Broad Daylight*, *Bobbie Sue*, *Trying To Love Two Women*, *(I'm Settin') Fancy Free*, *American Made*, and the unforgettable *Elvira*. With an astounding thirty-seven Top 20 Country hits, with twelve gold, three platinum, and one double-platinum album, The Oak Ridge Boys have made their mark in every facet of the Gospel, Pop, and Country music industries.

"For all of my career I have always been a planner, sometimes planning two or three years in advance, what we will do, where we will go, and when we record," expresses Duane Allen. "As we celebrate fifty years of being together, just as you see us, we will, also, begin our 'American Made: Farewell Tour.' I don't know how long the tour will last, but we hope to return to as many parts of the country as we can. Thank you so much for these fifty years. For me, it's 57 1/2 years. I have given you the best part of my life and you have rewarded me with a wonderful career. Thank you, our dear fans. Thanks to God for His divine guidance. Thank you to our wonderful organization. Thank you to all the supporting companies who represent us. And thank you to our families."

In the early seventies, The Oak Ridge Boys continued to expand their cutting-edge style. After the addition of Richard Sterban in 1972 and Joe Bonsall in 1973, the Oaks were forever changed with a new direction, a new sound, and a new path. Their career stands alone with its legacy, its style, and its continued contributions to Gospel and Country music.



"I was 25 years old in 1973 when I joined The Oak Ridge Boys," shares Joe Bonsall. "I am 75 years old in 2023 and I am STILL an Oak Ridge Boy. It has been and still IS an amazing ride."

For more information and to view upcoming tour dates for The Oak Ridge Boys, please visit their website, [www.oakridgeboys.com](http://www.oakridgeboys.com).

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# BREI CARTER

## NO LIMITATIONS

Crossover Country and Southern Pop recording artist Brei Carter is proof that sometimes faith, patience, and time pay off.

By Robin Tanner

Growing up in Monroe, Louisiana with a solid, southern upbringing, Brei's family raised her on several authentic southern staples: the Bible, Lone Star Missionary Baptist Church's choir, Charley Pride, Loretta Lynn, Aretha Franklin, and no shortage of familial love and devotion.

Brei has earned her bachelor's in business, master's in international relations, and a doctorate in theology. She is also a proud Veteran of the U.S. Army, where she served as an enlisted soldier and as an officer. Having moved to Nashville soon thereafter, she has quickly established herself in the songwriter's community as a smooth and sometimes edgy songstress who merges Country, Soul and Southern Pop into one fused style.

Brei reflects on her upbringing and how it shaped her life. "I've been around music my entire life, whether it's been singing in a choir, singing in talent shows or playing a musical instrument, taking vocal lessons and listening to various genres of music. It has always been around, and I've had a love for music since I was a little girl. I think just growing up with a musical family, the church choir and playing a musical instrument - all of these things helped or played a part in where I am today. But I would honestly add that the military played a critical part, in the fact of the discipline that's a huge part of the foundation. Not being afraid and willing to put everything on the line for what you believe in."

She has been influenced by multi-genres of artists ranging from Patsy Cline, Loretta Lynn, Tina Turner, Aretha Franklin, Charley Pride, Dolly Parton, Kenny Rogers, and countless others. She says, "I loved everything from Gospel to Motown, from Country to Rock. In addition to some of the famous names, I also loved hearing my mother sing. She was actually my first influence in having a great appreciation for music. She's always been a songbird and I love to hear her sing."

Her first single on country radio, *Gave Him A Girl* was immediately recognized as "cute and catchy" by Country music journalist and historian Robert K. Oermann from Music Row Magazine.

It could be said that Brei has already had career milestones added to her bucket list. She made her CMA Fest debut in 2022, performed on the Huckabee Show and singing the National Anthem at Vanderbilt University's athletic event at Memorial Coliseum. She admits, "Honestly, every opportunity whether big or small is still memorable and equally important because I get the opportunity to make new fans! I'm looking forward to building upon these and adding many more career highlights."

In 2022, Carter released her debut album "Brand New Country," which included her fan-favorite cover of Charley Pride's *Kiss an Angel Good Mornin*, and her life's musical story *Stronger Than That*. The latest original single release from the Louisiana native is *Straight Up Country Crazy*. The



follow up single, *Sun Is Still Shinin'* will be available soon. Brei mentions, "I'm currently in the studio with music producer Jimmy Ritchie and writing with many people. Stay tuned, great things are on the horizon."

When asked what inspires and motivates her, Brei replied, "God is no respecter of persons, He's our Heavenly Father and He has an abundance of blessings for all of us. We should never let society dictate our journey in life or our walk with God and His plans for our lives. What God has for you, is for you. Enjoy the journey and let God lead you. I know that all things are possible to those that believe so never give up or give in. Know that the best is still to come if you continue to do your part. Life has many ups and downs and twists and turns but, in the end, if you stay faithful and faint not you'll realize that your dreams are coming true and manifesting themselves right in front of your very eyes"

When coming to a show, she says, "Fans can expect someone that's genuine, caring and real. Expect a good time, a good feeling, and a memory of a lifetime. My goal is to create a feeling of happiness."

Brei gets fans in the holiday spirit this season with her new seven song Christmas EP, "Twinkling Tales of Christmas," due out November 10 by Brown Lee Entertainment & The Orchard. Known for having a festive and vivacious personality year-round, Carter's new EP is a multi-faceted genre collection of original songs which draws

upon her established Country, Southern Pop, Soul and R&B musical influences. "Twinkling Tales of Christmas" takes its listeners through a range of emotions and paying homage to the warmth, joy, and shared experiences that define that special time of year. The new EP is anchored by the festive, *Santa Wontcha*, which she released as a single in Christmas of 2021, and the song's music video is out now. Carter co-wrote *Santa Wontcha* with Nashville hit songwriter Corey Lee Barker.

Carter has become a welcome addition to the emerging new styles of Country music blossoming in today's diverse musical landscape. She has already accomplished many goals in her life, but there is no question she has many more goals in her sights. "I want to be a household name and make a difference in millions of lives. I want to touch people through my music and any outreach programs that God leads me to be a part of. Music bridges the gap in a lot of disparities and heals the broken. I know that I'd love to be on Billboard someday and honestly to go as high as my journey and destiny leads me. Some say that the sky's the limit, but I'd like to believe that there are no limitations to where my music can go someday."

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# CASHBOX

## Artist Spotlight

### NENE

### VAUGHN-MOORE



Now residing in Vicksburg, Mississippi, songbird NeNe Vaughn-Moore was born and raised in Tallulah, Louisiana. She started singing at the tender age of thirteen and performed in high school talent shows. She also traveled and sang with the Reuben McCall High School Stage Band and performed the National Anthem at several of the Reuben McCall High School football games.

Some of the artists who were influential in her life were Shirley Caesar, Deleon Richards-Sheffield, Andrae and Sandra Crouch, Deniece Williams, CeCe Winans, Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey.

NeNe soon started to fall away from God as she started hanging out with the wrong crowd. She felt the Spirit of God tugging on her heart to come closer to Jesus, but she ran away from the call of God. At the age of seventeen, losing her mother to a battle with cancer was a turning point for her. She realized that she could no longer run from the presence of almighty God.

At the age of eighteen, NeNe re-dedicated her life to the Lord, and she soon discovered her call to the music ministry. She started writing poetry, which soon developed into songwriting. Songs started to come, one after the other. God began to give her songs in dreams, and He started putting different melodies in her heart and spirit.

NeNe has a deep love and passion for God. Her desire is to use her gift to bring glory to God and to usher God's people into His presence. One of NeNe's songs, *The Name* was featured on the Triumph Church Choir CD, "Our Song of Praise," that was recorded live in 2007. NeNe released her first Gospel album, "Jesus Be Alive in Me," in March of 2011. NeNe just released her sophomore album, "I Just Wanna Praise," in March of 2023. Her album can be purchased on CDBABY, iTunes, Amazon, Spotify, Deezer and many other digital platforms.

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**MELANIE WALKER**



*Take Up Your Cross*  
**MARY JAMES**



*The Prodigal Story*  
**JONATHAN RAY SMITH**



*From Afar*  
**PAULA SLOW**



*If Not For You*  
**CHRIS GOLDEN**



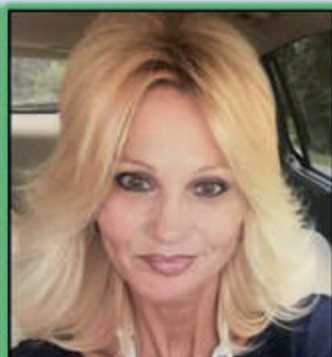
*A Better Place*  
**STELLA PARTON AND JOHNATHAN BOND**



*In His Eyes*  
**KATIE ESTES**



*How Big God Is*  
**TERRY AND DEBRA LUNA**



*Hello Mama*  
**SHERRY DAMRON**



*Look What I Found*  
**KEITH BUCHANAN**



*Lovin' Me*  
**GINA WHITE**



*Rest On The Waters*  
**WINK KELSO**



*One More Time*  
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*Old Hymns*  
**CYNDI REYNOLDS**



*Once Upon A Cross*  
**BARBARA FAIRCHILD**



*Bethlehem, Virginia 18C*  
**STEVE BRIDGMON**



*Back Home Again*  
**JOHNATHAN BOND**



*My Guilt Was No Match  
(For God's Grace)*  
**CHUCK HANCOCK**



*Men Like These*  
**PAUL STAGGS**



*You Get To Me*  
**DELNORA**



*It Had To Be God*  
**TIM LIVINGSTON**



*Not Just On Sunday*  
**THE PAULS**



*Old Rugged Cross*  
**CARL RAY**  
*(Featuring Rhonda Vincent)*



*You're Worth It All*  
**TY HODGES**



*You Carry Me*  
**JOY LAVALLEE**

## ... AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Forget About  
the Past!

# CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS



Staff, Musgrove Music Distribution

Gospel music artist Charlotte Williams sets the industry ablaze with phenomenal new hit single *Forget About the Past*. Taking the framework of an open, honest conversation about life, she delivers it with music and song... and it's quickly racing up the charts!

Charlotte Williams is a Gospel artist, an entrepreneur, a loving mother, a psalmist, an accomplished songwriter/lyricist, and this is only the tip of the iceberg. Her smash hit single, *Forget About The Past*, is already a huge success, and she is well on her way to becoming a household name for her artistry and her relatability. Her music is a living example of her tenacity and determination to make the world a better place through music and song.

In a very short time, *Forget About The Past* has already garnered well over 100,000 streams on Spotify and other internet streaming sites. Williams is wowing critics and fans alike with her refreshing musical take on perseverance, overcoming obstacles, and moving forward, upward, and onward no matter what comes our way. The lyrics of *Forget About The Past* are open and honest, and the song itself is a seamless fusion of Gospel and Inspirational music that is reaping wide appeal. Charlotte is unmistakably and apologetically Gospel, as her strong faith and beliefs pour out of her music like water; even so, because of the well-thought-out musical production and spot-on lyricism, one could easily

place this song in rotation with Mary J. Blige, Jill Scott, or even Eryka Badu.

“‘Incredible’ doesn’t even begin to describe this artist,” states Daniel Musgrove, CEO of Musgrove Music Distribution. “Charlotte Williams is one of those rare-find artists that we were blessed to cross paths with, and with the caliber of music that she’s making we are assured that she will enjoy longevity in the field of Gospel and Inspirational music. Musgrove Music Distribution is extremely excited and honored to be a part of Charlotte’s musical journey.”

With her “girl next door” flair, and her heart for encouraging people to strive for “better,” Charlotte is taking the Gospel music industry by storm one heart at a time. A self-proclaimed “studio fanatic,” Charlotte has always gravitated towards creative people and creative things, and music was a natural pursuit for her creative appetite. Her parents had the insight to involve her in music in church as early as pre-school, and it helped shape her musical perspective throughout her life. Outside of church, she was raised in a house where her father listened to artists like Sam Cook and Bobby Blue Bland. As her natural gifts grew and

developed, Charlotte would often mimic the vocal stylings of R&B icons like Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Anita Baker, Stacy Lattisaw, Denise Williams, and many others. Her musical involvement inside and outside church would shape her unique artistry and influence the artistic approach to her singing as well as the lyrical content in her songwriting.

*With her “girl next door” flair, and her heart for encouraging people to strive for “better,” Charlotte is taking the Gospel music industry by storm one heart at a time.” - Musgrove Music Distribution*

There was a time when Charlotte was actually shy and reserved. Although she was comfortable singing in church circles, for some time she rarely ventured beyond that. This all changed when she was given the opportunity to perform on a local news channel that boasts millions of consistent viewers. The positive feedback she received from that appearance was so overwhelming that it motivated her to push beyond her comfort zone and pursue a career in music. In the interim, she has been afforded the opportunity to share the stage with Shirley Caesar, Dorothy Norwood, and others. Charlotte aspires to collaborate with industry legends such as Jason Nelson, Marvin Sapp, Fred Hammond, Kirk Franklin, and others in the near future.

As a songwriter/lyricist, Charlotte Williams writes songs with life lessons pulled from her own personal experiences. “Some songs are designed to provoke thought and encourage change in a positive light,” says Charlotte. “Some songs are targeted to simply worship the King [Jesus]. I glean inspiration from different producers, but for the most part I write my own music. I have been honored to sing with the best, and every time someone is touched by my songs my soul rejoices! Experiencing the Holy Spirit is breathtaking for me, and I appreciate every encounter I have with God.”

Charlotte is currently in the studio now working on a new EP slated to be released soon. The world can look forward to a flourishing and successful musical journey from this artist, and as far as Charlotte is concerned the sky's the limit to what she can achieve with God on her side.



For more information on services provided by Musgrove Music Distribution, call 954.257.9955, email at [Daniel@musgrovemusicdistribution.com](mailto:Daniel@musgrovemusicdistribution.com), or visit the website at [www.musgrovemusicdistribution.com](http://www.musgrovemusicdistribution.com).

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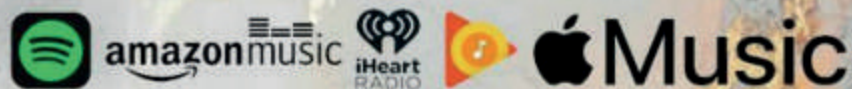
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## Artist Spotlight

# JIM HUDDLESTON

By Jason Airy

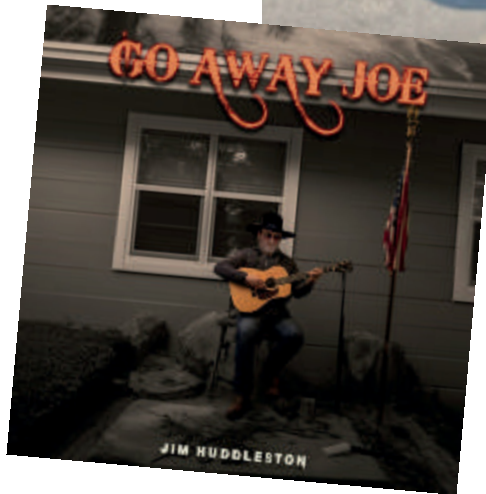
Jim Huddleston is not your typical Country singer-songwriter. Born and raised in a small mobile home park in Dallas, Texas, Jim's humble beginnings and strong faith have shaped his music and his life in an extraordinary way.

Jim was exposed to a variety of music at a young age, thanks to his father's involvement as a steel guitar and dobro player for The Seven Rowe Brothers Band. However, it was the music in his father's barbershop that truly inspired Jim to pursue a career in music. He would spend his afternoons jamming with the musicians who visited the shop, developing his skills and love for music.

In 1985, Jim met his future wife, Alicia, at Emmanuel Baptist in Irving, Texas. After enlisting in the military and being stationed overseas in Japan, Jim was reunited with Alicia in 2018 and the couple were soon married. With Alicia's support, Jim returned to music in 2020. In October 2023, he released his first single, the tongue-in-cheek conservative anthem *Go Away Joe*, on MTS Records.

But Jim's music is more than just catchy Country tunes. It is a reflection of his faith and experiences as a disabled veteran. As he says, "America needs a voice now more than ever. Why shouldn't that voice be ours?"

Jim's music is a reminder of the power of faith and perseverance, and the enduring spirit of America. Through his lyrics, he aims to uplift and inspire those who listen, to remind them of the hope that can be found in the midst of difficult times.



But Jim's passion for music goes beyond just performing and entertaining. He sees music as a powerful medium to spread hope and the message of God's love to those who need it most. Jim is committed to using his music to support his Christian faith and to be a voice for the downtrodden and those who are afraid.

In addition to his music career, Jim is also a proud, disabled veteran of the USMC. He is a husband, father, and grandfather, and a patriot who always puts his Christian faith first. He believes that music has the power to bring people together and heal a divided nation and world.

Despite his many accomplishments, Jim remains humble and focused on using his talents to make a positive impact on those around him. He has yet to receive awards or accolades for his music, as he has always put his career on hold to serve God and country and raise a family. But he is hopeful about the near future and has big plans for releasing singles and albums in both the Country and Gospel genres.

Jim Huddleston's music is more than just entertainment; it is a reflection of his life, faith, and values. With his unwavering dedication to God and country, and his passion for using music to spread hope and positivity, Jim is an artist to watch in the Country music scene.

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BY JASON AIRY

## A Shining Example of the Power of Passion, Hard Work, and Determination

**L**ittle Rock, Arkansas-based couple Cliff and Susan Prowse are taking the Country music scene by storm. With their unique blend of talent, passion, and drive, they have quickly become a household name in the industry. This married duo, known simply as Cliff & Susan, have captured the hearts of audiences all around the world with their incredible musical talents and dynamic chemistry onstage.

Cliff and Susan met in 2016 on stage at Willy D's Rock & Roll Piano Bar in Little Rock, Arkansas. They immediately clicked and began performing together as Cliff joined Susan in her show at Oaklawn Casino in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Within a year, they had eloped in Las Vegas and were touring the world together. It was a whirlwind romance that was only the beginning of their incredible journey in the music industry.

Both Cliff and Susan have deep roots in Arkansas and a strong passion for music. Susan, originally from Magnet Cove, Arkansas, discovered her love for music at a young age, taking classical piano lessons and performing in various pageants and talent contests. She went on to attend the University of Central Arkansas, where she was a member of the Honors College and the university Jazz band, as well as president of Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority. After graduating with honors, Susan took a corporate job as a Radio Frequency Engineer but left it all behind to pursue her dream of a career in music. Her gamble paid off, and she has been traveling the world as a successful singing piano entertainer ever since.

Cliff, on the other hand, was born to play music. Growing up in Mt. View, Arkansas, he was surrounded by traditional music festivals and competitions, winning fiddle contests and sharing rounds with A-list players. He is a singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and producer, with a voice that captivates and a skill with instruments that is unmatched. His influences include

legendary names like Charlie Daniels, Brit Currie, and Tim Crouch, and his versatile songwriting style covers multiple genres, from Country and Bluegrass to Rock and Pop.

As a duo, Cliff & Susan have toured internationally in over seven countries and perform more than 200 shows per year. In February 2023, they were invited to perform on the nationally televised Huckabee Show, where they gained even more recognition for their unique sound and electrifying stage presence. Their debut single, *Drivin' Me Crazy*, was released in April 2020, followed by their signature song, *Fiddle & Keys*, in January 2023.

Their latest single, *Neon Dreams*, went to radio on October 6, 2023, and their 12-song debut album, "Fiddle & Keys," was released on October 27, 2023. Both projects have been seven years in the making and are eagerly anticipated by their fans and fellow artists alike. Along with their music, Cliff and Susan have also ventured into the business side of the industry, founding Big Red Dog Productions, a music production and artist development company, and the Yadalo Music & Arts Festival, which won Arkansas's Best New Festival of the Year in 2019.

Their passion for supporting and uplifting other independent artists led them to create the Entertainers Academy, a platform to help aspiring musicians build profitable careers in the ever-evolving music industry. They also host the Cliff & Susan Podcast, where they share insights and experiences from their own journey while educating, entertaining, and inspiring listeners.



As a couple, Cliff and Susan are not only partners in music but also in life. They are deeply rooted in their Arkansas community, and their love for music and each other shines through in everything they do. They are a shining example of the power of passion, hard work, and determination, and they continue to inspire and uplift others with their incredible talents. With their mission to support and elevate independent artists, there is no limit to the heights they can reach together as Cliff & Susan.

[www.cliffandsusan.live](http://www.cliffandsusan.live)

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**The Goddess of Pop  
Releases Her First Ever  
Christmas Album  
While Celebrating the  
25th Anniversary of  
Her Mega-Hit Album,  
“Believe”**

**CHER**

**C**her has been a worldwide superstar including an Academy Award-winning actress, Emmy and Grammy winner, three-time Golden Globe winner and People’s Choice Award winner. The Broadway and film actress, singer, director, documentarian, author, and humanitarian is known as the “Goddess of Pop.”

The icon’s talents and artistry goes beyond any genre which she has mastered now for six decades. At 77 years old she’s once again trying something new with her first ever Christmas album. To add to her long list of accomplishments, she is celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the mega hit album, “Believe.”



## By Jennifer Springs

In the official trailer for her Christmas album, Cher answers the question, What is it about now that made you say a Christmas album? “The record company,” she laughs! “I didn’t wanna do Christmas songs as I have heard them, as I know them. I thought I can make it fun for myself. And I thought I can make it something beautiful, something that’s me. It’s crazy so it’s me!”

She continues, “I just started with some songs and then things started to fall in place. For me, it was about raising the bar and making it more exciting. When you have that excitement, you go to where your limitations are and you push them aside. I went all over the place. It’s a little Rock and Roll, a little Bluesy. It’s not your mother’s Christmas album! I’ve been everywhere, I’ve done everything, but I am proud of this.”

Cher’s first holiday album, simply titled, “Christmas,” features thirteen Christmas songs, including Cher’s take on holiday classics such as *Santa Baby*, *Run Run Rudolph* and more, as well as four original tunes. “I’d never say this about my own records but I’m really proud of this one,” Cher said in a statement. “It is one of the most amazing highlights of my career.”

Cher invited special guests to add their talents to the holiday album which she called, “erratic.” She commented on the collaborations on Good Morning Britain in September. “I’m really, really excited because there’s millions of people on it. I’ve never had duets, never had people on any of my records, and this was a last-minute thing.” Cher went full circle and asked Darlene Love, who joined her for *Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)*. Cher actually sang background vocals on Love’s original at age seventeen which she recorded with Phil Spector.

Then there’s the duet with Stevie Wonder for *What Christmas Means To Me*, to which she said in a statement; “I am singing with Stevie Wonder! It doesn’t get any better than that! Every time I hear that harmonica, I’m a teenager again. It’s a personal dream come true for me to record this song with Stevie.”

Cher takes you on a festive ride on *Drop Top Sleigh Ride* featuring rapper, Tyga. The “Believe” singer reminds you to *Put A Little Holiday In Your Heart* featuring Cyndi Lauper on this fun holiday tune that will have you singing along! Then Cher teams up with Mr. Christmas himself, Michael Bublé on a haunting version of *Home*.

*DJ Play A Christmas Song*, the first single from the album, was written by Sarah Hudson who has written songs for, Dua Lipa, Katy Perry, and Troye Sivan. Hudson and her team contributed four new songs for the album. The Christmas song wouldn’t be complete without what’s now known as “Cher Effects” which is reminiscent of her iconic hits like *Believe*. Other tracks on the album that will become instant favorites include, *Angels In The Snow*, *I Like Christmas*, *Christmas Ain’t Christmas Without You*, and *This Will Be Our Year*. Recorded primarily in LA and London, “Christmas” was produced by longtime collaborator Mark

Taylor (“Believe”). The holiday album is her first new album in five years.

Back in the early fall, she gave teasers with a pair of Instagram posts. “Are you spending Christmas with me?” The post captioned a holiday-appropriate picture of her standing on a massive snowball wearing an oversize white button-down shirt and wide-leg blue jeans with twinkling rhinestones, with red and silver metallic ornaments floating in the air. Cher captioned the second teaser post, “Christmas already? But I’ve got nothing to wear...” The photo featured Cher in a platinum-blond wig while wearing a metallic, sequined floor-length gown, with a frozen tundra as the backdrop. These photos became magnificent covers for Cher’s Christmas album.



### Cher’s “Christmas” CD Cover

Cher made the rounds on two of the most popular shows in the world - 2023 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, Rockefeller Center Christmas and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon performing songs from the “Christmas” album. Cher “Christmas” is #1 album on the Holiday charts.

Holiday albums from Bing Crosby, Johnny Mathis, Elvis, Brenda Lee, Amy Grant, and Mariah Carey has been the go-to Christmas music for many years. Now the much anticipated “Christmas” album from Cher brings a fresh new sound to holiday favorites along with several new tunes. Cher’s “Christmas” will be the ultimate holiday album for Christmas parties everywhere!

Along with the release of a Christmas album, Cher’s “Believe” album is celebrating a major milestone. In honor of its 25th anniversary, the singer released a deluxe edition of the album that includes thirteen remastered remixes in triple LP, double CD and digital download formats, as well as streaming.



**Circa 1970s, Sonny & Cher**

The deluxe version contains all of the original songs with remixes including the previously unreleased Tee's Radio One Instrumental and Ray Roc's Latin Soul Instrumental of single *Dov'e l'Amore* for the first time. The album's other singles - the title track, *Strong Enough* and *All or Nothing* also received the remix treatment.

The vinyl version of the album features leopard-print packaging, and contains sea blue, light blue and clear discs in addition to a numbered lithograph of Cher. Following the news of "Believe's" deluxe release, a remastered HD version of Cher's *Strong Enough* video was made available on YouTube.

Originally released in 1998, "Believe" served as Cher's 22nd studio album and is the most successful to date, peaking at No. 4 on the all-genre Billboard 200 and spending a total of 76 weeks on the tally, the most out of her entire album catalog. The title track *Believe* is also Cher's best performing song on the chart hitting No. 1 and spending a total of 31 weeks on the charts (four of them at the top).

"Believe" received a Grammy nomination for 'Record of the Year,' a first for Cher. The track won for 'Best Dance Recording' - Cher's first Grammy win after nearly 35 years in the business. "Believe" is also hailed for its use of a vocoder machine, producing what we now know as auto tune - aka the "Cher effect."

Looking back, Cher's amazing career began at seventeen as a backup singer when she met producer Sonny Bono. Together they quickly hit the jackpot with their signature number one song, *I Got You Babe* in 1965. Solo success soon followed with three more number ones in the early Seventies - *Half Breed*, *Dark Lady*, and *Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves*. At the same time, she was becoming a TV sensation on "The

Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour," which captured the first of her Golden Globes. After the couple split in the mid-1970s, Cher went on to her own series. "The Cher Show."

By the early 1980s Cher was ready for a new challenge and turned her focus to acting. But it was an uphill battle for an untried actress now in her mid-30s to land roles. In 1982 she took a huge gamble in a Broadway production of "Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean." But it paid off when director Robert Altman, upon seeing her performance, cast her in the movie version, leading to a Golden Globe nomination. That led to "Silkwood" in 1983, alongside Meryl Streep, followed by "Mask" with Eric Stoltz and Sam Elliott. Four years later Cher starred in three films, "The Witches of Eastwick" (with Jack Nicholson, Susan Sarandon, and Michele Pfeiffer), "Suspect" with Dennis Quaid and "Moonstruck." Her role as the frumpy bookkeeper in "Moonstruck" (with Nicolas Cage and Olympia Dukakis) won her the ultimate Hollywood accolade - the Academy Award for 'Best Actress,' as well as a Golden Globe and People's Choice Award. Cher had come a long way in the short five years since her Broadway debut.

In 1987 Cher went back into the recording studio for the first time since the early '80s, with a Rock-oriented phase that led to such major hits as *I Found Someone*, *We All Sleep Alone*, and *If I Could Turn Back Time* along with three multi-platinum albums.

Cher starred in "Mermaids," based partially on her own childhood and featuring her international hit version of *The Shoop Shoop Song (It's In His Kiss)*. In 1996, Cher co-



executive-produced and directed a segment of the controversial HBO abortion drama “If Walls Could Talk,” with Demi Moore, Sissy Spacek and Anne Heche, once again earning a Golden Globe nomination for her acting.

It would take a trip to the UK and an introduction to the world of dance music for her next triumph in 1998. Cher’s 23rd studio album, the Grammy-winning “Believe” was a critical and commercial smash, reaching number one in every country and selling 20 million copies. “Believe” made Cher the oldest woman (at 52) to have a number one hit in the Billboard Hot 100 Rock era. It also made her the only female artist to have Top 10 hits in every decade from the 1960s to 2010s. *Believe* became the biggest-selling single ever in the UK by a woman and took her back to the top of the US charts for a month. The subsequent “Believe” tour was the most successful of her career, but it would be eclipsed by the three-year, 325-show world “Farewell Tour” from 2003 to 2005. Playing to more than three million fans and captured on film in an Emmy-winning NBC special, it became the most successful tour by any female artist. Soon after, Las Vegas beckoned and “Cher at the Coliseum” at Caesar’s Palace ran for three years and almost 200 concerts before winding up in early 2011.

Cher is a star who’s well conscious of her diva status, and she never fails to deliver. She resumes her film career during the 2010s by playing a version of herself in two musicals, 2010’s camp classic “Burlesque” and 2018’s “Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again.”

Of the many hot streaks she has seen over the years, Cher finds herself in the middle of a particularly blazing stretch by the end of the 2010s: she releases an album of ABBA covers, “Dancing Queen,” and it becomes the year’s highest-selling album by a female artist. The Cher Show, a jukebox musical based on her music and life, opens on Broadway in the same month that she is also celebrated at the Kennedy Center Honors, which recognizes artists who have made lasting contributions to American culture.

Many clips from old Cher interviews resurfaced on the web and became viral, helping cement her icon status among a new generation of fans who may not know who Sonny & Cher were, who were not alive when she won her Oscar for “Moonstruck” in 1988, or whose first exposure to Cher was her ‘90s mega hits that are now classics.

The Cher phenomenon continues. A woman, mother, singer, television star, actress, a fashion icon, author, and businessperson. The list goes on and on. Cher has done all this and more. Constantly pushing boundaries and breaking new ground, Cher never fails to give her fans a reason to “Believe!”

[www.cher.com](http://www.cher.com)



*Marion Serria Cork*

Marion Serria Cork, an independent gospel singer from Indianola, Mississippi, is eighteen years old. God has blessed her with the ability to sing and minister through music as she moves from state to state. To all his people, regardless of their color, gender, or nationality, he is very good. Marion wants to use music to bless people’s hearts, minds, and souls.

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*Merry Christmas  
and a*

*blessed and prosperous*

*New Year*

*to all the artists, disc jockeys,*

*promoters, and media*

*who work throughout the year*

*promoting the cause of Christ.*

*All God's Best,*

*Melanie Walker*



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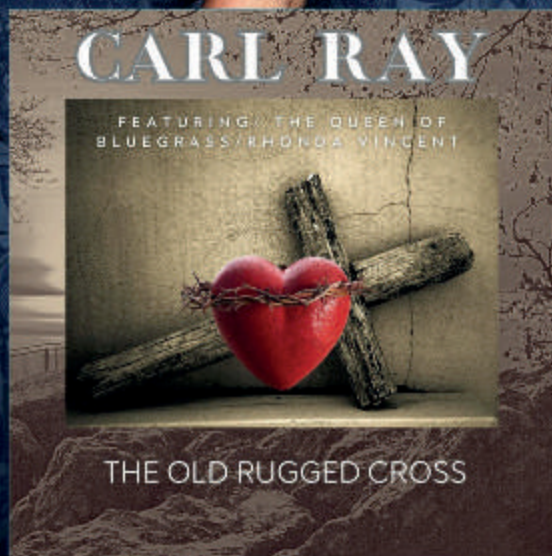
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*Happy Thanksgiving*

A photograph of James Payne, an older man with white hair and a goatee, wearing a black patterned shirt. He is holding a dark-colored electric guitar with a light-colored pickguard. The background is a dark, textured wall.

# JAMES PAYNE

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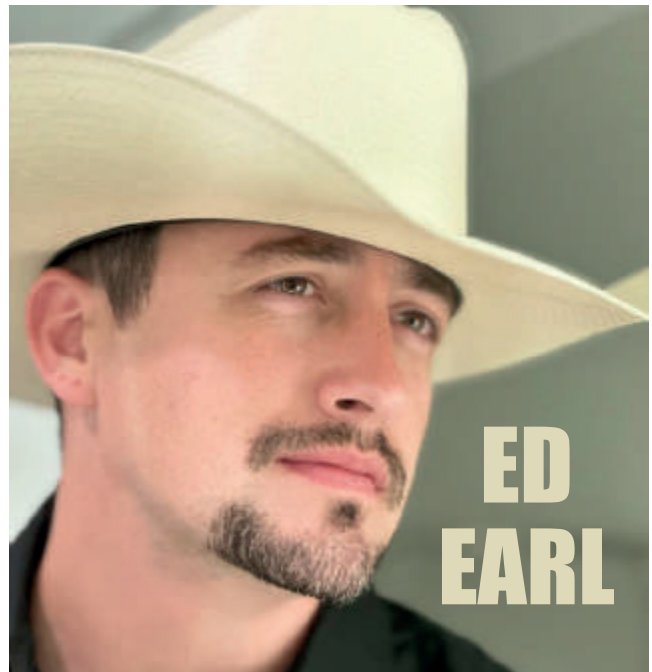
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## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

**E**d Earl is a Traditional Country music singer and songwriter who writes songs reminiscent of the 80s and 90s Country era. He grew up in the Southwest between Texas and New Mexico but currently hangs his hat in Tennessee. His biggest influences are George Strait, George Jones, Gary Stewart, Alan Jackson, and Brooks and Dunn. His latest EP "Dos" was released on all streaming platforms on June 13th. Currently his song *Spanish Girls* is at #19 on the UK's HotDisc Country Chart Top 40 after only four weeks.



Ed is currently serving as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy Reserves, he has been in for fourteen years and plans to retire after twenty.

Ed Earl's radio single, *Spanish Girls* has just been released by Magenta Records, distributed by Millennium Music Group and Airplay Direct.

For more information, contact Red Ridge Entertainment at [gary.redridgeentertainment@gmail.com](mailto:gary.redridgeentertainment@gmail.com).

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# ICON SERIES

## Celebrating the Legends

This Edition

### SHIRLEY CAESAR QUEEN OF GOSPEL

By Robin Tanner

Since leaving The Caravans - the hottest Gospel singing group in the land - and striking out on her own over fifty years ago, Shirley Caesar has been sweeping across America and the world, delivering her Christian message in electrifying song and sermon. She has picked up twelve Grammy awards, eighteen Dove awards, fourteen Stellar awards, a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and numerous other honors along her path. She has been a standard-bearer for traditional African American Gospel music, yet at the same time has been unafraid to challenge convention and take the genre in daring new directions.



**B**orn and raised in Durham, North Carolina, Caesar was greatly inspired by her father, Big Jim Caesar, a farmer who sang with an a cappella quartet. He died of a brain seizure when she was but ten. To help support her semi-invalid mother, Hallie Caesar, and a dozen brothers and sisters, she hit the road as a Gospel soloist with a one-legged evangelist named Leroy Johnson. Billed as Baby Shirley, at age thirteen she cut her first single, *I'd Rather Have Jesus*, backed with *I Know Jesus Will Save* for Federal Records.

"I got my call to the ministry when I was in college in 1957," says Caesar. Majoring in business administration at North Carolina College, she put her studies, along with her plans of becoming an evangelist, on hold when The Caravans, a fast-rising Gospel group from Chicago, passed through Durham the following year. They were minus a member, and Caesar convinced leader Albertina Walker that she knew all the parts. Walker was so impressed with what she heard; she

invited the teenager to join the group. Caesar moved to Chicago and sang with The Caravans for the next eight years.

During her tenure, the group boasted other dynamic lead singers, most notably Inez Andrews, Cassietta George, and Dorothy Norwood. However, it was Caesar's emotionally galvanizing delivery and highly animated stage demeanor that were central in making The Caravans the most popular female Gospel group since the Ward Singers. Caesar's intense leads were featured on such Caravan hits as *Sweeping Through The City*, *No Coward Soldier*, *Holy Boldness*, and *Choose Ye This Day*.

Caesar preached her first sermon in Chicago while a member of The Caravans, but on record, and in concert, her spoken testimony was limited to sermonettes within the bodies of songs such as *Hallelujah*, *Tis Done*. By the early 60s, during breaks in the group's schedule, she began getting offers to sing and preach apart from The Caravans. Sometimes

last-minute engagements would come along for the group, and Walker would ask Caesar to cancel her own dates. “I did not like disappointing people,” Caesar says. “Tina would give me time off, and then dates would come in, but my first allegiance was to The Caravans. I knew that something would have to give.”

Caesar finally left The Caravans in 1966, signing with Hobb Records, and began appearing as Evangelist Shirley Caesar. She recalls, “My first few months as a solo artist went so well that I called my mom and asked her to send Ann.” Ann Caesar became a charter member of her sister’s new background group, the Caesar Singers.

Shirley Caesar’s solo saga has been a series of one triumph after another. In 1975, her Gospel version of *No Charge* (originally a #1 Country hit) crossed over to both the R&B and Pop charts. Three years later, “First Lady,” her debut album for the United Artists/Roadshow label sold so well that it reached #36 on Billboard’s R&B album chart. Most notably her “Live In Chicago” album featuring her classic, *Hold My Mule* remained #1 on the Gospel charts for fifty-two weeks. Years later, her line from this song, *I Got Beans Greens Potatoes Tomatoes* went viral as an internet challenge, introducing her to a whole new audience.

Understandably, today Shirley Caesar is known as the ‘Reigning Queen of Gospel.’ Over the decades, Caesar has become easily the most visible Gospel singer in the world. She has collaborated on recordings with such artists as Aretha Franklin, Al Green, Whitney Houston, Michelle Williams, Patti LaBelle, Gladys Knight, Kirk Franklin, Dottie Peoples, Christian Rapper Tonex, and producer/singer J. Moss. She has also appeared on television in the series, “Good News,”



**Shirley Caesar is honored with a Star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame on June 28, 2016 in Hollywood, California.**

“Soul Food,” “The Parkers,” and “Family Time.” She has been on Broadway in “This is My Song” and the “Born to Sing” trilogy. As well she appeared in motion pictures, “Gospel,” “The Preacher’s Wife,” “Why Do Fools Fall In Love,” “The Fighting Temptations,” and “The Unseen.” She has sung for every President since Jimmy Carter.

Caesar’s plans of completing her education and becoming a minister, interrupted by her stint with The Caravans, eventually reached fruition. In 1984. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Shaw University with a BA in business administration. She has honorary doctorates from Shaw University and Southeastern University, and she is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In 1990, she was ordained as a pastor by her husband, Bishop Harold Ivory Williams. She currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Mount Calvary Word of Faith Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. Pastor Caesar has served on the City Council in Durham.

Pastor Shirley celebrated her 85th birthday on October 13, 2023. The ‘Queen of Gospel Music’ is also celebrating more than six decades of ministry this year. In a recent TV interview, she told ABC 11 in Durham, North Carolina, “It’s been hard, but yet rewarding. There were some times I would scream... and when I just wanted to go somewhere and hide. But I’m still here.”

Caesar told Eyewitness News she couldn’t fathom how she’s been able to accumulate the awards, fanfare, and life-changing and soul-fulfilling work as an artist and a pastor. “Had anyone ever told me that I would have a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame,” she continued, “Here I am a little chocolate girl from North Carolina. I would not have believed it. But, God! Always remember that.”

Pastor Caesar continues to keep going for The Lord. “I’m working on the next 50! Can I get a witness?” she laughed.



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## 4th Annual James M. Williams Benefit Singing

This is a Benefit singing with a portion of the proceeds going to The American Cancer Society. They will be in attendance on this night to receive the donation. We will also be helping a family with Christmas. As of this time we will have The Hindman Family, The Cleghorn Family and Darrell Luster. I will be honoring family and friends who have had to battle this awful disease as well as family and friends who have unfortunately passed. For the ones who have passed i will have "In Memory Of" on papers to pass out as well as the ones who are fighting this disease. The American Cancer Society said they would also like to have the list for their records. Let's fill up the civic center and make a great donation and to help a family at Christmas.

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# MTS

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## Artist Spotlight

# ELEYET McCONNELL

By Jason Airy



Urbana, Ohio may seem like an unlikely spot for a Country Rock duo to emerge, but that's exactly where Eleyet McConnell was born. Comprised of Angie and Chris McConnell, this dynamic duo is turning heads and winning hearts with their genre-defying sound and powerful songwriting.

Both hailing from musical backgrounds, Angie and Chris were drawn to music from a young age. Angie, who was born and raised in rural Ohio, was surrounded by the vibrant melodies of her family's musical traditions. Chris, on the other hand, joined his first band at the age of ten and was immediately captivated by the power of music to convey emotions that words could not.

The pair's musical paths eventually crossed, and they began collaborating, crafting a sound that defies easy categorization. Their music is a fusion of raw emotion, introspection, and unapologetic originality, with lyrics that reflect personal experiences, universal truths, and the shared human condition. From hard-hitting Rock anthems to heartfelt ballads, Eleyet McConnell's music resonates deep within the hearts of their audience.

But their journey as musicians has not been without its challenges. The duo has faced disappointments, financial struggles, and the strains of juggling a music career with family and personal commitments. However, their dedication to their craft and each other has kept them pushing forward, determined to share their music with the world.



Their hard work and perseverance have paid off, with Eleyet McConnell's latest album "Crazy World" garnering critical acclaim and gaining them a dedicated fanbase. The album's first single, *Gettin' By*, speaks to the chaos and struggles of everyday life, a sentiment that resonates with listeners of all walks of life.

But for Angie and Chris, the most rewarding moments of their career come when they see their audience connecting with their music. Whether it's in front of

five people or 50,000, the duo feels humbled and fulfilled when they can evoke emotions in their listeners.

In addition to their music, Eleyet McConnell also uses their platform to address social, moral, and spiritual issues. Both raised in church but having drifted from it, the duo now finds themselves reconnecting with their spirituality and using their music to inspire others to do the same. They donate to a local church and believe that everyone's relationship with God is personal and should be respected.

As Eleyet McConnell continues to make waves in the music industry, they remain committed to pushing artistic boundaries and delivering honest, authentic music that speaks to the human experience. Urbana, Ohio may be their home base, but their music knows no geographical or genre boundaries, making them a force to be reckoned with in the music scene. Keep an eye out for this talented duo as they continue to make their mark on the Country Rock world.

# Molded Clay



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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	21	Tulsa Sounds Like Trouble	Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	AirPlay Direct
2	5	Feather In A Hurricane	Michelle Malone	SBS Records
3	8	She's In His Arms, I'm In The Palm of His Hand	Summer Dean	The Next Waltz
4	16	Motherless Children	Rosanne Cash	AirPlay Direct
5	26	Heart Is The Hero	The Wood Brothers	Honey Jar/ Thirty Tigers
6	10	Sitting Alone	Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives	Snakefarm Records
7	30	Too Much Talkin'	Ida Clare	AirPlay Direct
8	13	Back to Earth	Melonie Cannon(with Willie Nelson)	Rural Rhythm Records
9	19	Don't Think Twice, It's All Right	Sunny Sweeney, Miko Marks, Rissi Palmer, Tami Neilson	Aunt Daddy Records
10	15	Carole With An E	Brennen Leigh	Signature Sounds Recordings
11	24	Last Call	Ludlow Creek	MTS Records
12	1	Forgiving Ties	Deer Tick	ATO Records
13	27	Tears Run Dry	Abraham Alexander	Dualtone/MNRK
14	29	Know That By Now	Randy Rogers Band	Tommy Jackson/Thirty Tigers
15	58	Holdin' The Bag	Supersuckers	Acetate Records
16	23	Every Chance I Get (I Want You In The Flesh)	Dan Auerbach	Easy Eye Sound/Concord
17	40	Sometimes Loves Like That	Tia McGraff	MTS Management
18	3	Rust Belt Fields	Rod Picott	AirPlay Direct
19	11	Common Ground	Pete Price	MTS Records
20	31	Holler	The Watson Twins	Bloodshot Records
21	33	Two Shots Of Tequila	Pam Ross	MTS Records
22	44	Cup Of Sugar	Tim O'Brien	AirPlay Direct
23	54	Lucky	Rodney Crowell	New West Records
24	36	Mountain Road	Boy Golden	Six Shooter Records
25	56	More Than A Love Song	Black Pumas	ATO Records
26	14	Way Back In The Day	Steve Martin & Edie Brickell	Rounder Records
27	28	Miles And Miles Of Texas	Asleep At The Wheel	AirPlay Direct
28	55	Let The Stranger In	Rosemarie	Colt Records
29	2	Lethal Love	Eilen Jewell	Signature Sounds
30	6	Still Here	Rissi Palmer featuring Miko Marks	Rissi Palmer Music
31	53	I Ain't Got You	Omar And The Howlers	AirPlay Direct
32	50	Blue Railroad Train	Leftover Salmon (feat. Billy Strings)	Compass Records
33	4	Jersey Giant	Elle King	RCA Records
34	46	Always Looking Back	Freeman & Williams	AirPlay Direct
35	52	Cover My Tracks	Ruston Kelly	Rounder Records
36	67	Rock N Roll Heart	Lucinda Williams	Highway 20 Records/Thirty Tigers
37	9	Killing Me	Lori McKenna ft. Hillary Lindsey	CN Records/Thirty Tigers
38	37	Always Old Friends	Dana Cooper	Dog Eared Music
39	17	Dreaming Out Loud	Gov't Mule ft. Ivan Neville & Ruthie Foster	Fantasy Records/Concord
40	42	White Horse	Chris Stapleton	Mercury Nashville
41	45	In The Dirty South	The Curse Of KK Hammond	MTS Management
42	7	Norfolk Blues	Drayton Farley	Hargrove Records/Thirty Tigers
43	49	I Wonder About You	Lady Redneck	MTS Management
44	57	Who We Are, Where We Live	Continental Drifters	Omnivore Records
45	22	Old Dirt Road	Star Prairie	MTS Management
46	51	Sticks And Stones	Lukas Nelson + POTR	6 Ace Records/Thirty Tigers
47	66	Stay Right Here	Allison Russell	Fantasy Records/Concord
48	47	Darlin' Boy	Jacky Jack White	Sucarnochee Records
49	59	A Thousand Highways	Special Agent Sunshine	Big Records
50	35	Strong Swimmer	Josh Ritter	Pytheas Records/Thirty Tigers



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## Americana Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	62	When We Were Close	Jason Isbell And The 400 Unit	Southeastern Records/Thirty Tigers
52	12	Sometimes You've Got To Stop Chasing Rainbows	Son Volt	Transmit Sound Records/Thirty Tigers
53	32	Sweet	Jobi Riccio	Yep Roc
54	64	How Many Women	Lydia Loveless	Bloodshot Records
55	68	Tell The Truth	Rachel Anne Goodman	Coast Ridge Records
56	72	I'm Still	Bahamas	Brushfire Records
57	70	The Most Unheard Of Thing	Harmony Dreamers	MTS Records
58	61	Strangest Day	Bonnie Pointer	AirPlay Direct
59	74	Grass Is Greener	Rose Angelica	Big Bear Creek Music
60	83	Send More Love	Los Lonely Boys	BMG/Shelter Music Group
61	34	The Borderland	Dave Alvin & Jimmie Dale Gilmore	Yep Roc
62	88	World Worth Keeping	Jaime Wyatt	New West Records
63	82	Keep It On A Burner	Margo Cilker	Fluff And Gravy Records
64	86	I'm Leaving	Teskey Brothers	Glassnote Records
65	41	Song On The Radio	Brew Davis	AirPlay Direct
66	43	Mountain Song	Flatland Calvary	Flatland Calvary Music
67	77	Close The Bets	Kyle Nix & The 38s	Soundly Music
68	71	Nu-Grape	Hiss Golden Messenger	Merge Records
69	80	Too Little, Too Late, Too Bad	Rhiannon Giddens	Nonesuch
70	84	There's Mothers Who've Cried	Rob Knowlton	Midland Records
71	75	Good Old Days	The Revivalists	Concord Records/ Concord
72	89	Hide Away	Bill Abernathy	MTS Records
73	78	This Is The Year	Yarn	AirPlay Direct
74	60	On The Turning Away	The Barefoot Movement	AirPlay Direct
75	93	Love You Anyway	Devon Gilfillian	Fantasy Records/Concord Music
76	91	All Again	Charles Wesley Godwin	Big Loud Records
77	-	Alcohol Of Fame	Lee Sims	Adelphos Records
78	81	This Ole Guitar And Me	Mike Hughes	Big Bear Creek Music
79	90	Bad Thing	Laurie Lace	Clarksville Creative Sound
80	48	Space Between Us	Alex Krawczyk	MTS Management
81	96	What You Have In Mind	Sonny Morgan	On The Rhodes Entertainment
82	99	Stoney River	Rich Sither	Colt Records
83	87	Kentucky Morning	Darrell Scott String Band	Soundly Music
84	97	Western Spirit World	Trevor Carlesi	Bongo Boys Records
85	65	I Remember Everything	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves	Warner Records
86	92	Green Light	Darlingside	More Doug/Thirty Tigers
87	94	Traffic Fiction	Tre Burt	Oh Boy/ Thirty Tigers
88	-	September Morn	Linda Marks	Big Records
89	69	Evangelina	Colter Wall	La Honda/RCA Records
90	-	My Favorite Picture of You	Guy Clark	Dualtone Music
91	85	Sunset Through The Pines	Terry LeMaster	Clarksville Creative Sound
92	95	You're So Right	John Surge And The Haymakers	Blackbird Record Label
93	100	Parting Ways	Travis Reid Ball	Independent
94	73	Poison The Water	David Starr	AirPlay Direct
95	-	The Dance	Randie O'Neil	Big Records
96	98	Stranger In A Strange Land	Margo Price	Primary Wave
97	-	Save Just One More	John Dorsch	MTS Records
98	-	Do Not Forget	Jon Dee Graham	Freedom Records
99	-	Wisconsin Rain	Capital B	AirPlay Direct
100	-	Sweet Rowena	The Time Jumpers	Rounder Records

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# Indie Artists Wanted

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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	2	Goodness Of God	Cece Winans	Pure Springs
2	1	Jesus	Maranda Curtis	Fair Trade/Columbia
3	13	He Rewrote My Story	The Christian Brothers	Independent
4	7	Just Won't Do	Lil Rev	Independent
5	9	Change	Pastor Darryl Bass & Delaware Boyz	Independent
6	12	Grateful	The McDuffies	Independent
7	16	The Way You Made Me	Daphne Hilton	Independent
8	3	Feel Alright	Erica Campbell	My Block/MNRK
9	23	All Lives Matter	Doc McKensiv & Hi Lites	Independent
10	19	The Moment I Call Your Name	D'Vyne Faith	Independent
11	14	Through The Fire	Latisha Johnson Montgomery	Independent
12	20	Thank You	Young Men 4 Christ	Independent
13	24	Get Outta My Way	Jamika	Independent
14	26	1-2 Punch	Nikki Berry	Independent
15	4	I Will Rejoice	Isabel Davis	Global Music Ministry
16	18	He Brought Me	Quinten Simon	Independent
17	31	Keep My Trust	Roszina Williams	VSC Promotions
18	6	I Still Have You	Smokie Norful	Indieblu/MNRK
19	30	Move Upstairs	Tim Woodson & Heirs of Harmony	VSC Promotions
20	21	Celebrate	Calvin Bridges	Independent
21	25	Amen Right There	Emcee Nice/Canton Jones/ Everett Drake	Independent
22	34	Did It Again	Ruth O'Lantra	VSC Promotions
23	36	Rescue Me Lord	Angel Michelle Love	Grace Records Nashville
24	5	Faithful God	Kell Bailey with Mariah Lanee & Jeremy McKain	MTS Management
25	11	Finished	Tamela Mann	Tillymann
26	8	Love Song to Jesus	Minnie Carter	Independent
27	27	Thy Blood	Soul Revivals of GA	Independent
28	37	Get Up	Tye Tribbett	Motown Gospel
29	35	One Day	Robert Horton	Independent
30	10	Hold On Child	Ricky Luster	Millennium Music Group
31	17	His Everlasting Love	Jackee Henry	Scott Enterprises & Media/MMG
32	32	Step Right In	Shonda English	VSC Promotions
33	44	Power of God	B Chase Williams & Sha Bach	Independent
34	46	Going On In Jesus Name	George Carter & Gentlemen of Faith	Independent
35	38	Change Me	Andy Shaw	Independent
36	41	Love His Name	A VOW	Independent
37	15	I'll Fly Away	Predestined of Michigan	Doam Records
38	29	Nothing Else Matters	Brent Jones	JDI
39	47	Healer	Frozone Hayes	Independent
40	42	Bless Me In The Storm	Faith Hairston & The Chosen Vessels	VSC Promotions
41	48	It Is Well	Monica Lisa Stevenson	Independent
42	40	Hold On	Le'Andria Johnson	RCA Inspiration/PLG
43	-	You And I	Shunice Hill Sullivan	Independent
44	43	Something To Believe In	Miss Freddye	MTS Management
45	45	My Soul Is Anchored	Bishop George Livingston	Independent
46	22	Help Me Praise The Lord	Chanella Moore	Independent
47	-	It's a Win Win Church	SD Campbell	Independent
48	50	You Cover Me	Neva Ford Nation	Independent
49	33	Worshipping You	Scotts	Millennium Music Group
50	-	Change	Darryl Bass & Delaware Boyz	Independent

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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	4	<b>Cold Ashes</b>	<b>Don Rigsby</b>	<b>RBR Entertainment</b>
2	6	The Flood	Rock Ridge	Airplay Direct
3	8	Mason's Lament	Po' Ramblin' Boys	Smithsonian Folkways
4	12	Kentucky's Never Been This Far From Tennessee	Kristy Cox w/ Marty Raybon	Billy Blue
5	18	Dreamer's Hill	Lost & Found	Mountain Fever
6	9	Silence In The Brandy	Dan Tyminski	8 Track Entertainment
7	14	Fare Thee Well	Lindley Creek	Pinecastle Records
8	26	We're All Crazy	Dave Adkins	Mountain Fever
9	40	A River To Cross	Nedski & Mojo	Dark Shadow
10	1	The Power Of Love	Rick Faris	Dark Shadow Recording
11	19	Feelin' Bad Blues	Ry Cooder	Independent
12	24	I Saw The Light	Lee Newton with Rhonda Vincent	Millennium Music Group
13	21	You Don't Need To Be Improved	Jeff Parker & Company	615 Hiway
14	5	Moses You're The Man	Punch Brothers	Independent
15	10	Foggy Morning Breaking	Allison Brown & Steve Martin	Compass
16	13	Pain Moves In	Kenny & Amanda Smith	Farm Boy
17	31	Grey Wind	Shawn Lane & Richard Bennett	Bonfire
18	22	Mercy Of A Train	Lori King & Junction 63	Independent
19	38	I'm Fallin'	Donna Ulisse	Billy Blue
20	30	Black Vinyl 45	Retro 78	Independent
21	27	Paper Angel	Jason Carter	Fiddleman Records
22	39	I Hear Banjos	Mike Mitchell	Independent
23	64	Can I Tell You	Irene Kelley	IRK Records
24	2	Carolina Calling Me	Appalachian Smoke	Airplay Direct
25	16	Old Home Place	Mo Pitney	Curb Records
26	32	Restless Heart and a Rambler's Soul	Volume Five	Mountain Fever
27	51	Back To Virginia	Ralph Stanley II	RBR Entertainment
28	50	I Could Get Used To This	Tim Raybon Band	Pinecastle
29	3	Headed For The Hills	Tommy Buller	RBR Entertainment
30	37	One Last Goodbye	Woody Platt	Melton & Miller Music
31	58	Tsali's Run	Carley Arrowood	Mountain Home
32	23	This Train	Wood Box Heroes	Independent
33	70	Alexander Mill	Tim Stafford	Hedge Drive
34	41	Wouldn't That Be Something	Merle Haggard	McCoury Music
35	53	La La Blues	Appalachian Road Show	Billy Blue
36	63	Snake Charmer	Balsam Range	Mountain Home
37	34	Lie To Me	Jaelee Roberts	Mountain Home
38	7	There Is A God	Lee Ann Womack	Independent
39	60	The Ties That Bind	Starlett & Big John	Rebel Records
40	65	Inch By Inch	Pam Gadd	Home Sweet Highway
41	75	Ready For A Bluer Sky	Amanda Cook	Mountain Fever
42	15	I'm All The Way Gone	Jackson Hollow	Mountain Fever Records
43	29	Black Hole Sun	Leftover Salmon	Independent
44	44	Barbry Allen	Andy Lowe w/ Aaron Ramsey	Mountain Fever
45	36	Holler	Wilson Banjo Co	Pinecastle Records
46	72	Alberta Clipper	Shannon Slaughter	Elite Circuit
47	59	Heartbreak Train	Caroline Owens	Skyline
48	11	Mama's Apron Strings	Larry Sparks	Rebel
49	48	Once You're Gone	Jeremy Garrett	Organic
50	77	Grassy Cove	Wyatt Ellis w/ Sierra Hull	Knee High Records



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# DECEMBER 2023

## Bluegrass Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	68	Kentucky Gold	Dale Ann Bradley	Pinecastle
52	20	Fields of Gold	Danny Burns feat. Tim O'Brien	Bonfire Music Group
53	17	From My Mountain (Calling You)	Peter Rowan with Molly Tuttle & Lindsay Lou	Rebel Records
54	55	Mighty Mississippi	Olivia Jo	Independent
55	28	The Legend Of Bonnie and Clyde	Fast Track	Englehardt Music Group
56	46	Way Downtown	Rob Ickes & Trey Hensley	Compass Records
57	71	Love The Thrill	Crandall Creek	Copper Mountain
58	76	Tried To Ruin My Name	Cory Walker w/ Sierra Ferrell	Mountain Fever
59	69	Curious Times	Mark Stoffel	Mountain Home
60	61	Back To The Hills Of Home	Carson Peters And The Iron Mountain	Billy Blue
61	33	California Sober	Billy Strings w/ Willie Nelson	Reprise Records
62	78	Where I'm Bound	Ashby Frank	Mountain Home
63	85	Next Rodeo	Molly Tuttle and Golden Highway	Nonesuch
64	49	For Your Love	Michael Cleveland w/ Billy Strings & Jeff White	Compass Records
65	66	Fall In Tennessee	Authentic Unlimited	Billy Blue
66	43	Kentucky Tennessee	Bobby & Teddi Cyrus	Pinecastle
67	92	Correct Me If I'm Right	Jimmy Yeary	RBR Entertainment
68	88	Run	Marija Droze ft. Billy Droze	RBR Entertainment
69	74	She Don't Know I'm Alive	Lonesome River Band	Mountain Home
70	89	You've Got Time	Marija Droze	RBR Entertainment
71	86	A Lot Of Truth In An Empty Bottle	Darren Nicholson	Mountain Home
72	35	Black & White	Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers	Billy Blue
73	45	I Hear You Callin	Ben James	RBR Entertainment
74	52	The Beautiful River Of Life	Tom T Hall	Independent
75	82	Up On The Divide	Mighty Poplar	Free Dirt
76	93	Awesome Sauce	Russ Carson	Engelhardt Music Group
77	91	This Time Around	Gary Nichols	RBR Entertainment
78	97	Yesterday	Billy Droze	RBR
79	90	Pages In Your Hand	Chris Jones & The Night Drivers	Mountain Home
80	67	Lonesome State Of Mind	Blue Highway	Rounder
81	79	Look At Me Now	Benson	Mountain Home
82	-	Luxury Liner	Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper ft. The Travelin' McCoury's	Compass
83	57	Better Class Of Losers	Caleb Daugherty Band	KDM
84	42	Ghost Of Fort Granger	Milan Miller	Melton & Miller Music
85	94	The City Of New Orleans	Rhonda Vincent	UMG
86	87	I Go	Grascals	Mountain Home
87	99	What Kind Of Fool (Do You Think You're Foolin')	Jerry Salley	Very Jerry Records
88	54	God Made A Promise	Eddie Sanders	Engelhardt Music Group
89	80	It's Worth A Shot	Chris Davis	RBR Entertainment
90	83	Summer Sun	Mike Sumner	RBR Entertainment
91	-	Living In The South	Starlett & Big John	Rebel Records
92	98	Here In The Country	Terry Baucom's Dukes Of Drive	Driving Duke
93	-	Back to Appalachia	Serene Green	Patuxent Music Group
94	-	Ghost Of Good Times	Full Cord	Dark Shadow Records
95	-	Forever Young	Daniel Grindstaff ft. Paul Brewster & Dolly Parton	Bonfire
96	100	Moments	Unspoken Tradition	Mountain Home
97	84	Somehow Tonight	Joe Diffe	Rounder Records
98	-	Cross On A Hill	Glen & Ashley Hamilton	AirPlay Direct
99	-	Drifting and Dreaming of You	Bobby Osborne & Jesse McReynolds	Pine Castle Music
100	-	Long and Lonesome Letting Go	Jim Lauderdale and The Po' Ramblin' Boys	Sky Crunch Records



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	7	Precious Memories	Brothers Of The Heart	Gaither
2	11	Better Times	Heaven's Mountain Band	Family Music Group
3	29	I Want To Be Just Like You	Chosen Road	Sound Garden
4	5	Are You Born Again	Cedar Hill	Mountain Fever
5	10	Nothing New	McBride Family	FMG Bluegrass
6	22	Folded Up Flag	Eddie Sanders	Englehardt Music Group
7	15	Hereafter	Lonesome River Band	Mountain Home Records
8	13	Safely In The Arms Of Jesus	Starlett & Big John	Rebel
9	17	When Jesus Calls My Name	Don Rigsby	RBR
10	23	The Mighty Name Of Jesus	High Fidelity	Rebel
11	16	Freedom	Lindsay Lou w/ Billy Strings	Independent
12	26	Here Comes Jesus	Jeff & Sheri Easter w/ Mo Pitney	Universal Music Group
13	4	My All And All	Ralph Stanley	Rebel Records
14	25	I've Still Got A Song	Nathan & Tonya Horton	Independent
15	9	God Has A Plan	Daniel Crabtree	Codel Records, Bell Buckle Records
16	28	Heaven Or Hell	Carson Peters & Iron Mountain	Billy Blue
17	34	The Good Shepherd	Becky Isaacs Bowman	House Of Isaacs
18	1	Winds Of Winfield	Mike Sumner	RBR Entertainment
19	6	I Owe Him Everything	Jaelee Roberts	Mountain Home
20	12	Shadow Of The Cross	Churchmen	Morning Glory
21	3	My Heavenly Home	New River Bluegrass	Independent
22	8	I Saw The Light	Lee Newton with Rhonda Vincent	Millennium Music Group
23	18	Jordan	Darin & Brooke Aldrige w/Ricky Skaggs, Mo Pitney, Mark Fain	Billy Blue
24	27	Don't Hold Back	Rick Faris	Dark Shadow Records
25	30	Great High Mountain	Larry Sparks	Rebel
26	36	The Gift	Breaking Grass	Independent
27	37	I Don't Want To Be A Part-Time Christian	Britton Family	Independent
28	19	Leave It In The Hands Of The Lord	Darren Nicholson	Mountain Home
29	44	Thank You Lord For Grace Today	Authentic Unlimited	Billy Blue
30	14	He's With Me	Daryl Mosley	Pinycastle
31	21	Waitin' On The Lord	Eric Horner	Independent
32	20	Say A Prayer For Our Boys	Willie Wells & The Blue Ridge Mountain Grass	Son Sound Music/MMG
33	24	Trusting In His Grace	Lakeside	Chapel Valley
34	-	Nothing Quite As Amazing As Grace	Chigger Hill Boys & Terri	Morning Glory Music
35	46	Can't You Hear Jerusalem Moan	Hammertowne	Mountain Fever
36	43	Just A Little Talk With Jesus	The Steeldrivers	Gaither
37	32	Where The Roses Never Fade	Kenny And Amanda Smith	Farm Boy
38	-	When I Get There	Russell Moore & IIIIRD Tyme Out	Independent
39	-	Lonely Road	Nick Chandler And Delivered	Independent
40	38	My Future Ain't What It Used To Be	Marty Raybon, Jerry Salley	Billy Blue Records
41	47	Way Up On The Hill	Eagle's Wings	Hey Y'all Media
42	35	Angels Watching Me	Tennessee Bluegrass Band	Billy Blue
43	45	I Will Not Cry Today	ChuckWagon Gang	Mountain Home
44	41	Take A Little Time For Jesus	Junior Sisk	Mountain Fever
45	-	Poor Rich Man	Gospel Powboys	Morning Glory Records
46	-	He Broke the Chains	King James Boys	Pine Castle Records
47	-	Scars In Heaven	Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers	Billy Blue
48	-	Old Country Baptizing	Zoe & Cloyd	Crossroads
49	-	Stay Their Arms	Primitive Quartet	Mountain Home
50	-	Come To Jesus	Danny Burns & Sam Bush	Bonfire Music

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**#11 CROSS COUNTRY**  
**#14 CHRISTIAN VOICE**  
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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	8	<b>If Not For You</b>	<b>Chris Golden</b>	<b>Canyon Creek Records</b>
2	16	Grew Up On That	Small Town Sunday	Son Sound Music
3	6	When I Didn't Have A Prayer	Sonshine Road	Canyon Creek Records
4	7	This World Is Not My Home	Todd Brumley	Canyon Creek Records
5	4	Go Burn The Plow	Troy Richardson	Millennium Music Group
6	5	Heavens Grand Tour	Wayne Atkins	CDX Nashville
7	11	Let Him In	Chris Darlington	Grace Records Nashville
8	13	Broken Vessel	Marvin Harrell	Millennium Music Group
9	22	What Does It Profit A Man	Carolina The Band	Son Sound Music
10	19	Don't Hide Your Scars	Johnathan Bond & Young Harmony	Canyon Creek Records
11	26	Take Up Your Cross	Mary James	Canyon Creek Records
12	10	I Know The Man	Mike Leichner	Canyon Creek Records
13	17	Used To Be's	Bill Baker	Canyon Creek Records
14	15	We Are Here Together	Jan Harbuck	Canyon Creek Records
15	25	Between The Pulpit And The Pew	Ken & Kim Stull	Millennium Music Group
16	18	All Alone	Roy Morris	Canyon Creek Records
17	23	He's To Blame	Don Stiles	Hey Y'all Media
18	24	Help Is A Prayer Away	Kellie Longworth	Canyon Creek Records
19	2	I've Been Delivered	Dave Turner	Independeent
20	38	Hold My Halo	James Payne	Millennium Music Group
21	44	Diggin' Up Roots	Joe Richard	Millennium Music Group
22	3	Appalachian War Cry	Lonnie Hardy	Millennium Music Group
23	36	One More Time	Terry Davis	Canyon Creek Records
24	29	Rich In His Love	Bobby Jones Family	Millennium Music Group
25	52	I Bleed The Color Free	Deano Graham	Millennium Music Group
26	28	Surrounded	Jimmy R. Price	Canyon Creek Records
27	14	Grace Led The Way	Michael Knight	Canyon Creek Records
28	58	Going Back Home	Shay & Michi	Millennium Music Group
29	9	I Met Jesus	Kesha Parish	Millennium Music Group
30	33	Sweet Beulah Land	Gregg Walker	Son Sound Music
31	53	How Big God Is	Terry and Debra Luna	Canyon Creek Records
32	60	Child Come Home	Waymasters	Grace Records Nashville
33	20	I'll Speak For You	Jacky Jack White	Canyon Creek Records
34	45	The Father's Hand	Suzzette Michaels	Canyon Creek Records
35	55	I'll Send It Up	Mike Haemmerle	Canyon Creek Records
36	12	I Saw The Light	Lee Newton & Rhonda Vincent	Millennium Music Group
37	1	Johnny And June	Greg McDougal	Canyon Creek Records
38	86	Tattoos And Scars	Steve Warren	Millennium Music Group
39	66	Turn My Eyes To Heaven	John Penney	Millennium Music Group
40	50	A Better Place	Stella Parton & Johnathan Bond	Canyon Creek Records
41	54	In Jesus' Name We Pray, Amen! Amen!	Melanie Walker	Canyon Creek Records
42	65	A Good Place To Turn Around	Ron Hemphill	Millennium Music Group
43	80	Rest On The Water	Wink Kelso	Canyon Creek Records
44	57	The Prodigal Story	Jonathan Ray Smith	Canyon Creek Records
45	31	All I Really Need	Lindy Bryson	Son Sound Music
46	87	Small Town Girl	Victoria Steelman	Positive Country Records/Red Country
47	69	Come To The Cross	Zac Clifton	Millennium Music Group
48	59	From Afar	Paula Slow	Canyon Creek Records
49	62	That's God	Trish England	Son Sound Music
50	78	A Better Way To Go	David Smith	Millennium Music Group

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# DECEMBER 2023

## Christian Country Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	61	Look What I Found	Keith Buchanan	Canyon Creek Records
52	79	Man Of His Word	Michael Austin	Millennium Music Group
53	42	Speak To Me	Jeff Burns	Millennium Music Group
54	72	In His Eyes	Katie Estes	Canyon Creek Records
55	83	I'm Heading In A New Direction	Elaine Roy	Grace Records Nashville
56	34	Hearts Of Stone	Heather Thomas Van Deren	Canyon Creek Records
57	59	I Want To Be Just Like You	Chosen Road	Son Sound Music
58	43	Yes He Did	Jim Sheldon	Millennium Music Group
59	81	America I Love	Michael Ray Fain	Grace Records Nashville
60	30	House Built By The Blood	Mike Wellman	Millennium Music Group
61	76	That's What Really Matters	Paul Tuttle	Millennium Music Group
62	74	I'm Good	Steve Roberson	Canyon Creek Records
63	68	Hold On Jesus Will Come	The Journeys	Chapel Valley Music
64	91	The Old Rugged Cross	Carl Ray & Rhonda Vincent	Millennium Music Group
65	40	What A Friend We Have In Jesus	Cindy Hughlett	Canyon Creek Records
66	75	Gods Gonna Part The Water	Kenneth Hall	Heartsong Nashville Music Group
67	39	Heaven's Forever	Tommy Murdock	Millennium Music Group
68	84	Lovin' Me	Gina White	Canyon Creek Records
69	92	What'll I Do	Barry McGee	Grace Records Nashville
70	89	Papa's Love	Ben Coulter	Millennium Music Group
71	93	Traces Of Your Love	Johnny Jones	Millennium Music Group
72	85	I Need Your Grace	Michael Tetrick	Independeent
73	73	Hello Mama	Sherry Damron	Canyon Creek Records
74	88	When Jesus Swings The Wrecking Ball	Alan Bibey & Grasstowne	Independeent
75	98	Never Stopped Believing	Tim Fulgham	Millennium Music Group
76	-	Not Just On Sunday	The Pauls	Canyon Creek Records
77	94	No Prayer Requests	Lorraine Howard	Millennium Music Group
78	90	Folks Don't Pray Anymore	Kenny Hatcher	Chapel Valley Music
79	95	We Could Leave Any Day	Dena Clark	Heartsong Nashville Music Group
80	96	And I Know	Debbie Mills	Millennium Music Group
81	-	Gonna Be Leaving	Jerry Grant	Millennium Music Group
82	-	The Old Sinner	Jamie Coulter	Millennium Music Group
83	-	Dying To Save Me	Melissa Evans	Chapel Valley Music
84	-	Get On Out Of Here	Mike Walker	Canyon Creek Records
85	100	Thank You For Trying	Jeff Napier	Heartsong Nashville Music Group
86	-	My Guilt Was No Match ( For Gods Grace )	Chuck Hancock	Canyon Creek Records
87	-	Victory Song	Russell Gilbert	Independeent
88	-	Your Worth It All	Ty Hodges	Canyon Creek Records
89	-	Called	Donna Kilmurray	Millennium Music Group
90	-	If Jesus Is A Stranger	Ray Stevens	Independeent
91	-	Old Time Feeling /Soul Fillin' Station	Dale Rochell	Millennium Music Group
92	-	He Never Really Went Away	Debbie Bennett	Grace Records Nashville
93	-	Don't Take His Job Away	Gena Hamilton	Millennium Music Group
94	-	High Above The Midnight	Richard Lynch	MTS Records
95	-	Bethlehem, Virginia 1 BC	Steve Bridgmon	Canyon Creek Records
96	-	Blood Sweat And Tears	Todd Tilgham	Independeent
97	-	Once Upon A Cross	Barbara Fairchild	Canyon Crrek Records
98	-	Old Hymns	Cyndi Reynolds	Canyon Creek Records
99	-	Men Like These	Paul Staggs	Canyon Creek Records
100	-	You Carry Me	Joy Lavallee	Canyon Creek Records



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	3	All Things	Kirk Franklin	Fo Yo Soul/RCA
2	4	My Story Your Glory	Mathew West	Reunion/PLG
3	7	Faithful God	Kell Bailey with Mariah Lane & Jeremy McKain	MTS Management
4	10	God Really Loves Us	Crowder	Capitol Records
5	18	Heaven Changes Everything	Big Daddy Weave	Word-Curb
6	14	God Did It Again	Branden Anderson	UAMG
7	17	Speak	Angel Taylor	Awspire
8	22	My Walk And The Wind	Sarayu	Grace Records Nashville
9	1	Holy Forever	Chris Tomlin	Sparrow/Capitol
10	19	Praise You Anywhere	Brandon Lake	Provident/Sony
11	26	Great God	Demetrius West	Black Smoke
12	28	Miracles	Kierra Sheard	Karew/RCA
13	25	My Light	Colton Dixon	Fair Trade/Atlantic
14	6	This Is Our God	Phil Wickham	Fair Trade/Columbia
15	21	I Believe It (The Life Of Jesus)	Jon Reddick	Gotee
16	15	Thank God I Do	Lauren Daigle	Centricity/Atlantic
17	24	Wanna Praise Ya	Zaneta	Devine Jamz
18	29	Only My God	Onyinyechi Okenwa	Onyinyechi Okenwa
19	32	Closer	Da' Gatherer	Platinum Level
20	27	Hold On	Katy Nichole	Centricity
21	11	Ain't Nobody	Cody Carnes	Capitol
22	8	Kingdom	Ptthegospelpitter Ft. Stephen Voyce	Serving The Peace
23	2	Feel Alright	Erica Campbell	MY Block/MNRK
24	5	Fear Is Not My Future	Maverick City Music	Maverick City/RCA
25	31	Son Of Man	Jordan Page	Millennium Music Group
26	46	Celebrate	Calvin Bridges	Independent
27	37	Rescue Me Lord	Angel Michelle Love	Grace Records Nashville
28	9	Why Not	Angelicvoicesmusic ft. Asim I.I.	Angelicvoicesmusic
29	12	To Not Worship You	Mercyme	Fair Trade/Columbia
30	20	Anxious Heart	Jeremy Camp	Sparrow/Capitol
31	39	He Rewrote My Story	The Christian Brothers	Independent
32	16	Don't Lose Heart	Steven Curtis Chapman	Reunion/PLG
33	-	My God Can Do Anything	Michael Wayne Smith	Independent
34	-	Healer	Frozone Hayes	Independent
35	23	Thank You For It All	Marvin Sapp	Elev8/Thirty Tigers
36	42	What Are We Waiting For?	For King & Country	Word-Curb
37	35	Now Is The Time	Chenille	Millennium Music Group
38	-	My Soul Is Anchored	Bishop George Livingston	Independent
39	48	The Light In You	Topel And Ware	Independent
40	45	I'll Fly Away	Predestined of Michigan	Independent
41	13	Cornerstone	Tobymac ft. Zach Williams	Forefront/Capitol
42	49	He Kept Me	Lamont Sanders	Independent
43	33	Finished	Tamela Mann	Tillymann
44	40	Run To The Cross	Jeff Arrandale	Millennium Music Group
45	34	Wholehearted	We Are Messengers	Word-Curb
46	43	Goodness Of God	Cece Winans	Pure Springs/Fair Trade
47	50	I'm Standing	Vincent Becton	Independent
48	30	His Everlasting Love	Jackee Henry	Scott Enterprises & Media
49	47	Desert Road	Casting Crowns	Reunion/PLG
50	-	Time For A Change	Gino Joubert	Grace Records Nashville

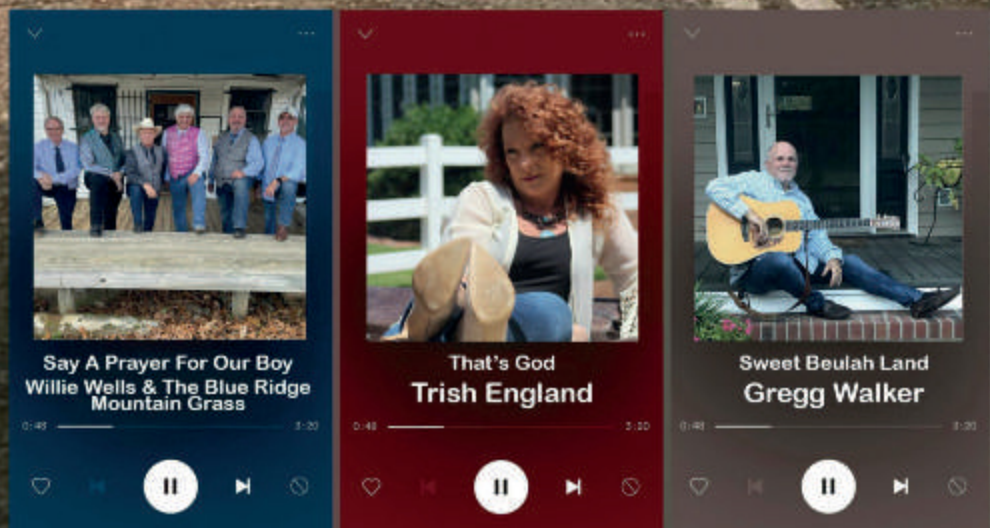
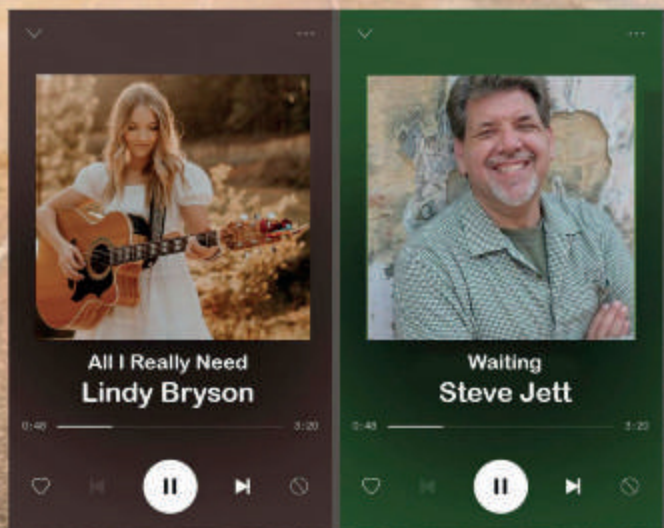
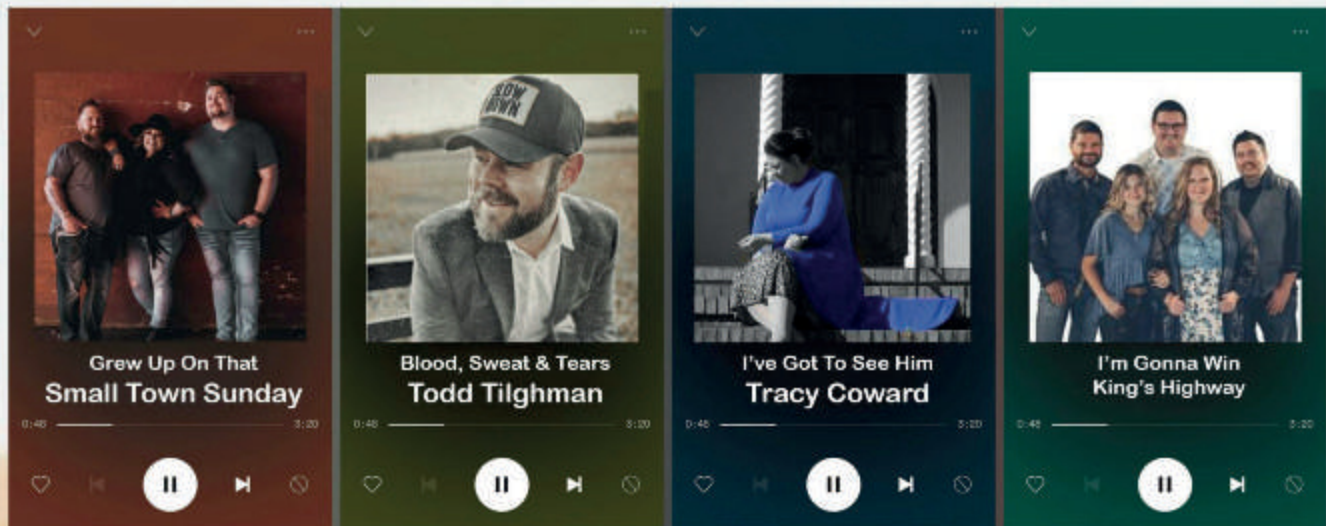


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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	4	<b>Trouble</b>	<b>Rachel Stacy</b>	<b>CDX Records</b>
2	7	Six Pack State Of Mind	Grant Gilbert ft. Josh Abbott	River House Artists
3	8	Love Another Day	Amy Scruggs	Airplay Direct
4	14	Rest In Peace	Taylor Austin	LMG
5	12	Blacktop Don't	Boomtown Saints	8 Track Entertainment
6	13	Texas Is My Home	Rich O'Toole	Buffalo Roam Records
7	18	Again	Cody Canada & The Departed	Underground Sound
8	23	Sunflower	Sarantos	MTS Records
9	17	My Side	Rylee Austin	Grace Records
10	27	America I Love	Michael Ray Fain	Grace Nashville Records
11	9	My Favorite	Glen Templeton	CDX Records
12	24	Live While You Got The Chance	Luke Kelly	General Records
13	20	Raised Some Hell In Me	Pamela Hopkins	MTS Records
14	29	Long, Long Way To Go	JC James	Grace Records Nashville
15	34	Nobody Loves Me Like The Blues	Debbie White	Big Bear Creek Music
16	45	Know That By Now	Randy Rogers Band	Tommy Jackson/Thirty Tigers
17	26	Living My Dream	Laura Dodd	Colt Records
18	22	Play Me An Elvis Song	Lance Wing & The Red Ridge Riders	Millennium Music Group
19	2	Should've Known Better	Erin Viancourt	Late August Records
20	39	Ready As I'll Never Be	Tanya Tucker	Sony Records
21	33	Springtime In Nashville	CC Brooks	Big Records
22	40	Rhythm Of The Road	Alex Krawczyk	MTS Management Group
23	58	He Don't Mind	Waylon Hanel	Waylon Hanel Music
24	15	Til Your Boots Are Dirty	Gary Pratt	MTS Management Group
25	1	My Heart Was A Dancer	Willie Nelson	Independent
26	28	I've Just Seen A Face	Val Storey	CDX Records
27	5	Dents On A Chevy	Ty Herndon & Terry Clark	Pivotal Records
28	11	Girl, I Know A Guy	Alex Miller	Billy Jam Records
29	49	Bar On The Corner	J.K. Coltrain	Colt Records
30	41	Just Gotta Live With It	Carl Ray	Sucarnochee Records
31	16	South	Mathew Ewing	Millennium Music Group
32	6	Wings Of A White Dove	Flat River Band	Independent
33	37	Current Conditions	Richard Lynch	MTS Records
34	44	Like Johnny Cash	Band Chamberlain	Colt Records
35	62	Right Amount Of Wrong	Andy Pursell	Southern Dreams Entertainment
36	87	Honky Tonk Honey	Kin Faux	Kin Faux Music
37	56	Crank It Up	Dan Knight	Steam Whistle Records
38	60	Somewhere Over You	LaDonna Capps	Open Highway Records
39	21	Hardwood Floors	Dan Dennis	Nashville Radio Promotions
40	3	Tear Drops	Lori Hardman	One Highway Records/MMG
41	10	Back Where I Belong	Gary Matheny	Big Records
42	42	Once Maybe Twice	Dennis DiChiaro & WNO	Colt Records
43	55	Whatever On The Rocks	See Your Shadow	MTS Records
44	19	If I Was A Beer	Ken Domash	Independent
45	51	Grass Is Greener	Rose Angelica	Big Bear Creek Music
46	69	Just To Be Loved	Jo Dee Messina	Checked Label Services
47	32	I Only Want It With You	Tyler Dean McDowell	Millennium Music Group
48	38	Sunday Chapel	Herrera	Independent
49	47	Statue Of A Fool	Burt Winkler	Colt Records
50	50	Mud Jeans	Ronnie Call	Big Records

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# DECEMBER 2023

## Independent Country Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	70	Sticks And Stones	Lukas Nelson + POTR	6 Acre Records/Thirty Tigers
52	61	Behind Those Eyes	Rosemarie	Colt Records
53	68	Blaze A Trail	Ashley Barron	SSM Entertainment
54	74	Lovin' On You	Aaron Copeland	Aaron Copeland Music
55	25	What The Buck	Dale Houston	Millennium Music Group
56	30	I Aint Done Singin' Yet	Jon Brennan	CDX Records
57	67	Bad N' Boozy	Rob Fitzgerald	Riverbend Recordings
58	75	Wait Till I'm Gone	Donice Morace	Bad Jeu Jeu Records/CDX Records
59	57	She Loves Me Not	Rich Sither	Colt Records
60	78	Find Me On A Beach	Marie Wise-Hawkins	Marie Wise-Hawkins Music
61	76	Free Kind of Me	Becky Wiles	Independent
62	43	That's My Drive	Daniel Shawn Boone	Sucarnochee Records
63	31	Honey	Rayne Johnson	Mountain Road
64	81	Better With A Buzz	Ryne Brashear	LIR Records
65	73	Girl On Paul Drive	Jacky Jack White	Sucarnochee Records
66	79	Crooked Road	Mustangs Of The West	Blue E'lan Records
67	82	Chipping Mill	Turnpike Troubadours	Bossier City Records/Thirty Tigers
68	46	Tequila	Ashley Puckett	MTS Management Group
69	-	She's Hurting Me Again	Elvis Presley Jr.	Big Bear Creek Music
70	88	Heartbreaks N Honkytonks	James Mason	Millennium Music Group
71	52	I Can Drink In This Bar	Darrin Morris Band	Independent
72	35	Let's Take Tonight	Corey Layne	Independent
73	85	New Money	Juliana Rankin	17th Avenue
74	36	Peach Pickin' Time In Georgia	Merle Haggard	Airplay Direct
75	-	I Never Gave Up	Dennis Ledbetter	Saint & Sinner Records
76	63	Brand New You	The High Road	MTS Management Group
77	89	Gentlemen Start Your Weekends	James Robert Webb	Independent
78	97	Spanish Girls	Ed Earl	Magenta Records
79	77	Drinkin' Boots	Colt McLauchlin	Steam Whistle Records
80	84	Got No Reason For Going Home	Chris Mabb	Steam Whistle Records
81	92	Used To Be Me	Joe Hermes	OTM Productions
82	53	Loser	Mike Ryan	Rock & Soul
83	59	In The Line Of Duty	Jessie Lynn	Airplay Direct
84	80	He's On A Trip	Gary Matheny	31st Street Sounds Productions
85	86	I'm Falling In	Steve Anthony	CDX Records
86	95	No Easy Way	Donna Cunningham	Big Bear Creek Music
87	90	Last Train To Nowhere	Ghost Hounds	Gibson Records
88	99	His Eyes In The Mirror	Betty Cole	Midland Records
89	-	Long Way Back To Town	Midnight Sky	MTS Records
90	96	Rough Around The Edges	Exile	Clearwater Records
91	-	Crossing The Great Divide	David Slater	Sucarnochee Records
92	91	Love Is Real	Shelly Lynch	CDX Records
93	94	I Have To Say	Danny Britt	Red Dawg Music
94	98	Me And You Before Goodbye	Cody Winkler & Georgette Jones	Colt Records
95	-	Lovin' Not Leavin'	Wade Bowen	Bowen Sounds/Thirty Tigers
96	100	I'm All In	Glen Shelton	Jordash Records
97	-	Neon Dreams	Cliff & Susan	MTS Records
98	-	Sidewalks Of Birmingham	Terrill	Sucarnochee Records
99	-	Cowboy Up	Darcia	Magenta Records
100	-	I'll Answer When You Call	Lori Hardman	Open Highway Records



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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	6	Everything I Love	Morgan Wallen	Mercury/Republic/Big Loud
2	10	How You Make A Man	Craig Morgan	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
3	12	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs	BMLG Records
4	7	God Gave Me A Girl	Russell Dickerson	Triple Tigers
5	21	Wine Country	Hannah Ellis	Curb Records
6	15	World On Fire	Nate Smith	RCA Records
7	17	Damn Love	Kip Moore	MCA Nashville
8	4	Watermelon Moonshine	Lainey Wilson	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
9	19	Save Me The Trouble	Dan & Shay	Warner Music Nashville
10	27	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce ft. Chris Stapleton	Big Machine Label Group
11	20	Drinkin' Problems	Dillon Carmichael	Riser House Entertainment
12	2	Stars Like Confetti	Dustin Lynch	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
13	22	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum	MCA Nashville
14	24	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders	BMG
15	57	Drive You Out Of Mind	Kassi Ashton	MCA Nashville
16	14	Drinkaby	Cole Swindell	Warner Music Nashville
17	9	Mattress On The Floor	Mo Pitney	Curb Records
18	42	Save Me	Jelly Roll ft. Lainey Wilson	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
19	25	Glory Days	Gabby Barrett	Warner Bros/WAR
20	28	Over For You	Morgan Evans	Warner Music Group
21	33	Something Real	Dierks Bentley	Capitol Records (UMG)
22	40	Brokenhearted	Joe Nichols	Quartz Hill Records
23	1	Fires Don't Start Themselves	Darius Rucker	Capitol Records Nashville UMGN
24	39	Somebody Else's Whiskey	Frank Ray	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
25	45	White Horse	Chris Stapleton	Mercury Nashville
26	56	Something Gonna Kill Me	Corey Kent	Thunder Mountain Records
27	8	Love You Anyway	Luke Combs	Columbia/River
28	3	Brown Eyes Baby	Keith Urban	Capitol Records
29	41	Outskirts	Sam Hunt	MCA Nashville
30	43	Make You Mine	Marynn Taylor	Black River Entertainment
31	23	All I Need Is You	Chris Janson	Big Machine Label Group
32	44	Daddy's Home	Ben Calhoun	Six Gun Sally Music
33	54	Blue Suede Boots	Coffey Anderson	Coffey Global LLC
34	58	The Painter	Cody Johnson	Warner Bros/WAR
35	61	Girl, I Know A Guy	Alex Miller	Billy Jam Records/CDX Records
36	5	But I Got A Beer In My Hand	Luke Bryan	Capitol Records Nashville (UMGN)
37	11	Try That In A Small Town	Jason Aldean	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
38	52	Blaze A Trail	Ashley Barron	SSM Entertainment
39	63	Wind Up	Josh Mirenda	Mercury Records
40	73	Shoot Tequila	Tigirlily Gold	Monument
41	68	Last Train To Nowhere	Ghost Hounds	Gibson Records
42	13	Standing Room Only	Tim McGraw	Big Machine Label Group
43	26	Nobody's Nobody	Brothers Osborne	EMI Records Nashville (UMGN)
44	29	Out Of That Truck	Carrie Underwood	Capitol Records Nashville (UMGN)
45	60	Without You	Thompson Square	Quartz Hill Records
46	18	Girl In Mine	Parmalee	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
47	31	Trouble	Josh Ross	Mercury Nashville
48	71	Tucson Too Late	Jordan Davis	MCA Nashville
49	16	Bury Me In Georgia	Kane Brown	RCA Nashville (SMN)
50	38	23	Chayce Beckham	Wheelhouse (BBRMG)



**Christine Scott**

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## Mainstream Country Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	62	High Lonesome Stranger	Cimarron 615	Black Sheep Records
52	67	Wings of A White Dove	Flat River Band	Coastal Cowboy Entertainment
53	34	Light On In The Kitchen	Ashley McBryde	Warner Music Nashville
54	35	See You Next Summer	Brian Kelley	BMLG Records
55	89	Nothing Compares To You	Mickey Guyton ft. Kane Brown	Capitol Records Nashville (UMGN)
56	32	If You Go Down (I'm Goin' Down Too)	Kelsea Ballerini	Black River Entertainment
57	49	Angels Don't Always Have Wings	Thomas Rhett	Valory Music Co. (BMLG)
58	72	My Favorite	Glen Templeton	Riser House Records
59	74	Bout Damn Time	Neon Union	Red Street Records
60	46	Should've Known Better	Erin Viancourt	Late August Records
61	51	Can't Have Mine	Dylan Scott	Curb Records
62	86	Honey	Rayne Johnson	Mountain Road
63	88	Cab In A Solo	Scotty McCreery	Triple Tigers
64	30	Creek Will Rise	Conner Smith	Valory Music Co. (BMLG)
65	93	Let's Take A Ride	Six Gun Sally	BMLG Records
66	81	Used To Be Me	Joe Hermes	Mountain Road Records
67	36	We Got History	Mitchell Tenpenny	Riser House Entertainment
68	53	Buy A Bar	Tim Dugger	Curb Records
69	66	Giving Up On That	Dalton Dover	Mercury Nashville
70	75	Seven Year Ache	Aaron Watson ft. Jenna Paulette	AduB Records
71	84	Mind On You	George Birge	Records Nashville
72	50	Your Heart Or Mine	Jon Pardi	Capitol Records (UMG)
73	55	Fearless	Jackson Dean	Big Machine Label Group
74	91	Young Love & Saturday Nights	Chris Young	RCA Nashville (SMN)
75	-	Country Dance	Aaron Goodvin	OTM Productions
76	95	In Your Love	Tyler Childers	Hickman Holler/RCA
77	37	Religiously	Bailey Zimmerman	Warner Music Nashville/WEA
78	59	Doing Life With Me	Eric Church	EMI Nashville
79	85	Dance With You	Brett Young	BMLG Records
80	-	Falling Too	Jet Jurgensmeyer	Simba Entertainment
81	70	Truck Bed	Hardy	Big Loud Records
82	76	Dents On A Chevy	Ty Herndon & Terri Clark	Pivotal Records
83	78	State You Left Me In	Jake Worthington	Big Loud Records
84	97	I'm Not Pretty	Megan Moroney	Sony Music
85	82	On The Boat Again	Jake Owen	Big Loud Records
86	-	Good With Me	Walker Hayes	Monument
87	65	Oklahoma Breakdown	Toby Keith	Show Dog
88	-	Marry That Girl	Easton Corbin	Stone Country Records
89	47	Bad Day To Be A Cold Beer	Chase Rice	Dack Janiels/Broken Bow
90	79	Love You Again	Chase Mathew	Warner Music Nashville
91	-	We Ride	Bryan Martin	Average Joe's Entertainment
92	64	You, Me & Whiskey	Justin Moore & Priscilla Block	Valory Music Co. (BMLG)
93	-	Chipping Mill	Turnpike Troubadours	Bossier City Records/Thirty Tigers
94	99	Cant Break Up Now	Old Dominion ft. Megan Moroney	Columbia Nashville (SMN)
95	-	Thicc As Thieves	Lauren Alaina	Big Loud Records
96	100	I Remember Everything	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves	Warner Records
97	87	Catching Up With An Ol' Memory	Clay Walker	Show Dog
98	48	Blacktop Don't	Boomtown Saints	8 Track Entertainment
99	98	Back Then Right Now	Tyler Hubbard	EMI Records Nashville (UMGN)
100	-	Lady	J. D. Crowe and The New South with Keith Whitley	Rounder Records



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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	2	<b>Cruel Summer</b>	<b>Taylor Swift</b>	<b>Taylor Swift/Republic</b>
2	9	Kill Or Be Killed	Muse	Warner UK
3	5	Nothing Is Lost (You Give Me Strength)	The Weeknd	Republic
4	8	Just Pretend	Bad Omens	Sumerian
5	16	Lowest In Me	Staind	Alchemy/BMG
6	1	As It Was	Harry Styles	Erskine/Columbia
7	1	Grand	Kane Brown	RCA Nashville/RCA
8	14	Watch The World Burn	Falling In Reverse	Epitaph
9	19	Whistle	Jax Jones & Calum Scott	Polydor
10	31	Psycho In My Head	Skillet	Atlantic
11	17	Blood In The Water	Ayron Jones	John Varvatos/Big Machine
12	22	Vampire	Olivia Rodrigo	Olivia Rodrigo/Geffen
13	7	Lost	Linkin Park	Warner Brothers
14	24	Soul On Fire	Godsmack	BMG
15	34	Watch Me Burn	Atreyu	Spinefarm UK
16	6	Memories & Stories	Mark Forster	Four/Sony
17	36	Dead Don't Die	Shinedown	Atlantic
18	13	Flowers	Miley Cyrus	Smiley Miley/Columbia
19	29	I've Got A Heart Too	The Outsiders	Big Records
20	23	Virtuality	The Eli Ali Project	Independent
21	4	Love From The Other Side	Fall Out Boy	Fueled By Ramen
22	10	Tree	Hardy Jack	Vibez/Big Loud
23	26	Beyond	Corey Taylor	CMFT & Co./BMG
24	42	Another Lonely Heart	Cory M Coons	MTS Records
25	46	Can't You Hear My Heart Crying	Jus" Kyle	Catbone
26	54	Daylight	David Kushner	Miserable/Virgin
27	3	Eyes Closed	Ed Sheeran	Atlantic UK
28	43	Paint The Town Red	Doja Cat	Kemosabe/RCA
29	38	The Falling Sky	Greta Van Fleet	Lava/Republic
30	11	Like A Saviour	Ellie Goulding	Universal
31	33	Better Off Alive	Die Tired	Sodeh
32	18	Cut The Line	Papa Roach	New Noise/Warner ADA
33	55	Not All Of Us Agreed	Harry Kappen	MTS Records
34	15	Calm Down	Rema & Selena Gomez	SMG/Interscope
35	35	Lean Times	Bruce Coughlan with The Sojourners	Big Records
36	53	Psycho	Asking Alexandria	Better Noise
37	41	Turn The Page	Steven K.	Big Records
38	44	Do Whatchu Be	The Heard Eye	Greater Cosmos
39	50	Love Again	The Kid Laroi	Columbia
40	39	You Are Already Free	Love Power The Band	MTS Records
41	45	Angels Watching Over Me	Jeff Senour	M15
42	52	Last Hope For The Modern World	Midnight Sky	MTS Records
43	68	All Things Must Change	Bush	BMG
44	20	Need A Favor	Jelly Roll	BBR
45	21	Chemical	Post Malone featuring Doja Cat	Republic
46	28	Peaches	Justin Bieber feat. Daniel Caesar & Giveon	RBMG/Def Jam
47	62	Snooze	Sza	Top Dawg/RCA
48	64	Those Days	Nickelback	BMG
49	27	Unstoppable	Disturbed	Reprise
50	56	72 Seasons	Metallica	Blackened/Rhino/ADA

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# DECEMBER 2023

## Pop / Rock Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	67	Creepin'	Metro ft. The Weeknd & 21 Savage	Boominati/Republic
52	63	Another Celebration At The End Of The World	Mammoth WVH	Explorer1
53	25	I'm Good (Blue)	David Guetta ft. BeBe Rexha	Parlophone/Warner UK
54	32	Emergency Contact	Pierce The Veil	Fearless
55	37	Bam Bam	Camila Cabello & Ed Sheeran	Syco/Epic
56	69	Under You	Foo Fighters	RCA
57	71	Faith In Me	John Dorsch	MTS Records
58	70	Stuck	Thirty Seconds To Mars	Concord
59	30	Heart Wants What It Wants	Bebe Rexha	Warner
60	48	Rescued	Foo Fighters	RCA
61	75	Cupid	Fifty Fifty	Attrakt/Warner Korea
62	76	Deprecipes	Critic City	Critic City
63	85	Silent Conspiracy	Reidland	Therapy Sessions
64	86	Wireless	Within Temptation	Vertigo Berlin
65	72	Runaway	Onerepublic	Mosley/Interscope
66	83	Skeletons	Pop Evil	Melody/MNRK
67	87	You Don't Know My Name	Pam Ross	MTS Records
68	40	Never Gonna Not Dance Again	Pink	RCA
69	78	Dance The Night	Dua Lipa	Warner
70	92	Life Worth Dyin' For	Jeremy Parsons	MTS Records
71	47	This Is Why	Paramore	Fueled By Ramen
72	59	Stuck	30 Seconds To Mars	Concord
73	74	The Dirt I'm Buried In	Avatar	Black Waltz/Thirty Tigers
74	82	Everything	Sevendust	Rise
75	49	Exchange Of Hearts	Terrill	Sucarnochee
76	51	Save My Life	J.J. McGuigan	MTS Records
77	58	Gold	LOI	Volksmusic
78	91	Your Happiness	Stephanie Michaels	Stephanie Michaels
79	61	Players	Coi Leray	Republic
80	90	Kill Hollywood	Cari Cartmill & Kill Hollywood	Broad Reach
81	57	Deep End	I Prevail	Concord
82	60	Waffle House	Jonas Brothers	Republic
83	65	Unholy	Sam Smith ft. Kim Petras	Capitol
84	100	Radiate	Michael Botte Band	Big Records
85	73	Nobody	Avenged Sevenfold	Warner Brothers
86	89	Like Heaven's Wings	Sobak	MTS Records
87	-	Fast Car	Luke Combs	River House/Columbia
88	79	Are You Clapping	Taydem Shoemith	MTS Records
89	-	Single Soon	Selena Gomez	Interscope
90	81	Feel Alive	Kamrad	Epic
91	93	The Feeling	Lost Frequencies	Epic Amsterdam
92	98	Used To Be Young	Miley Cyrus	Smiley Miley/Columbia
93	-	Pull Me Through	Royal Blood	Warner UK
94	96	Getting By	Eleyet McConnell	MTS Records
95	80	Sunroof	Nicky Youre Featuring Dazy	Columbia
96	99	One More Time	Blink-182	Columbia
97	-	One Hell Of A Woman	The Southern Outlaws Band	Big Records
98	97	Jesus He Knows Me	Ghost	Loma Vista/Concord
99	-	The Dance	Randie O'Neil	Big Records
100	-	No One Promised You A Good Life	Sarantos	MTS Records



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	28	I'll Always	The Turner Brothers featuring Kelsey D	TMP
2	6	Big Boy Luv	Zaeskee Alazae	Beat Accountants
3	9	Who Am I	MCUBED	Money Making
4	2	Deserve It	Denaron	Denaron
5	8	Glu	Usher	Brand Usher/RCA
6	19	Players	Coi Leray	Republic
7	20	Moving Too Fast	Nobdy	O.T.P. F.
8	7	Get With The Program	Daiyon featuring Philthy Rich	Platinum Tone
9	15	Snooze	SZA	Top Dawg/RCA
10	22	Free Mind	Tems	Leading Vibe/Rca
11	3	All My Life	Lil Durk Featuring J. Cole	Alamo/Sony
12	17	Hustle By My Lonely	Uglyface	Uglyface
13	25	Everything About Me Is Difrent	Nes	Sound Of LA/That 555 Lyfe
14	23	I've Got Feelings	The Real J Israel	J. Israel Family
15	26	What It Is	Doechii Featuring Kodak Black	TDE/Capitol
16	11	Can't Come Today	Tracy Supreme	Tracy Supreme
17	1	Broke Heart	Topnotch	Topnotch
18	10	Brandy	Mr Muzix	Muzix
19	30	All Night Long	Tonio Armani	Armani/MyLife
20	33	All My Life	Metro Boomin ft. The Weeknd & 21 Savage	Boominati/Republic
21	5	Boy's A Liar	Pinkpantheress & Ice Spice	Warner UK
22	14	Pop Out	Ashton Jones	Ashton Jones
23	16	Darkest Night	Kay One featuring Jon B., TC, Daiyon	Vibezelect
24	35	Never	Tony Lindsay	Lindseed
25	12	Princess Diana	Ice Spice & Nicki Minaj	10K Projects/Capitol
26	38	EZPZ	Jaye Valentine	Radar Live
27	4	We Could Be	Simone Green	Anka Shank
28	13	Favorite Song	Toosii	SCMG/UMG
29	24	Came Up	Jayypee Scooter	Jayypee Scooter
30	39	Paint The Town Red	Doja Cat	Kemosabe/RCA
31	27	Amazing	Stanley Byers	Lorenz
32	-	Bad Hottie	Da Mindsetta	Mindsetta
33	29	First Class	Jack Harlow	Generation Now/Atlantic
34	44	One Step At A Time	RJ's Latest Arrival	Barak/Ne'Astra
35	40	Search & Rescue	Drake	Ovo/Republic
36	18	Langley Avenue	Randy Hall	Ranvera
37	21	Derrick Rose	Jeremiah Yoko	Il Way
38	31	Island Breeze	G-Terra	Terra
39	36	Text Me Tomorrow	Con Funk Shun	JEG
40	48	Blue Racks	Cuh Dee Jah	2 Miles Ahead
41	-	I'm Always Chasing Rainbows	HelsTheArtist	MTS Records
42	49	I Am His Dream	Zave	Zave
43	32	Summer Too Hot	Chris Brown	RCA
44	-	ICU	CoCo Jones	Def Jam
45	42	Don't Understand	Young DRA ft. NLE Choppa	Zuma
46	50	Just Wanna Rock	Lil Uzi Vert	Atlantic
47	43	For One Night	Parker J	Parker J
48	41	Trouble	Jen Ash	MTS Records
49	45	Falling In Love	Londee Wiggins	Londee Wiggins
50	-	Never Settle	Lyrical Chris	ISOULATED

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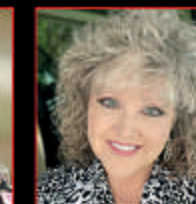
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# CASHBOX

## music charts

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	9	Lets Sing	Booth Brothers	Daywind/New Day
2	18	That's Why We Pray	Brian Free & Assurance	Daywind/New Day
3	12	I Know Who It Is	Carroll Roberson	Millennium Music Group
4	6	Once And For All	Gold City	New Haven/Provident-Sony
5	20	Think About There	Greater Vision	Daywind/New Day
6	2	Freedom Band	Hoppers	Gaither Music/Capital Christian
7	25	Beautiful	Nelons	Daywind/New Day
8	4	That Sweet Land Of God Somewhere	Primitive Quartet	Mountain Heritage
9	8	I Still Believe	Shepherds	Dove Music
10	13	Braggin On Jesus	Steeles	StowTown/Provident-Sony
11	7	Never Have To Wonder If I'll Ever	Troy Bruns Family	Chapel Valley Music
12	1	Dance	Karen Peck And New River	Daywind/New Day
13	10	He's To Blame	Don Stiles	Hey Y'all Media
14	37	He Knows My Name	Judith Montgomery Family	Chapel Valley Music
15	30	Been Blessed	Whisnants	Independent
16	16	Journey Of Grace	Oxendines	Millennium Music Group
17	64	Singing My Song	New Road 2	Chapel Valley Music
18	54	What A Morning	Inspirations	Horizon/Crossroads
19	15	Run To The Cross	Jeff Arrandale	Millennium Music Group
20	14	Nothing But Praise	Wendy Jones	Heartsong Nashville Music Group
21	36	Garden Of Grace	Gil Magee	Millennium Music Group
22	23	Listen And Be Still	Journey N Faith	Millennium Music Group
23	39	Come On Down	Kenny Keith	Millennium Music Group
24	33	What I Still Believe	Purpose Quartet	Chapel Valley Music
25	49	Bold Enough	Sacred Call	Chapel Valley Music
26	43	The One Who Knew No Sin	Webster Brothers	Millennium Music Group
27	81	Joy Unspeakable	Kim Hopper	Daywind/New Day
28	34	Hold On Child	Ricky Luster	Millennium Music Group
29	67	Touch Him	Ronny Hinson	Independent
30	17	I'm Going Home	Tracey Rhodes	Believer's Media Group/MMG
31	78	Joseph	Wings Of Love	Millennium Music Group
32	19	Without The Battle	Charity Hamilton	Millennium Music Group
33	27	Ready For The Change	Kingsmen	Horizon/Crossroads
34	82	For The Life Of Me	Mark Trammell Quartet	Crimson Road Music
35	29	I Heard About A City	Molded Clay	Millennium Music Group
36	22	Handfuls Of Purpose	Singing Byrds	Chapel Valley Music
37	41	This Man From Galilee	Tammy Caldwell	Millennium Music Group
38	60	That's What Really Matters	Paul Tuttle	Millennium Music Group
39	44	Long Black Train	Susan Agee Hicks	Grace Records Nashville
40	69	I've Got Something To Praise God For	Chosen 4:13	Millennium Music Group
41	56	Waiting	Steve Jett	Son Sound Music/MMG
42	28	Peace In The Shelter	Mark & Cindy Maynard	Millennium Music Group
43	61	Going Back Home	Shay & Michi	Millennium Music Group
44	21	Shine Down On Me	Sunday Drive	StowTown/Provident-Sony
45	35	I've Got To See Him	Tracey Coward	Son Sound Music/MMG
46	90	Dust On The Bible	Barbara Jean	Millennium Music Group
47	100	It Had To Be God	Tim Livingston	Patterson Music Group
48	74	It Will Be Finished	Poet Voices	Independent
49	86	Mary's Holy Precious Lamb	Cathy Reynolds	Millennium Music Group
50	85	Ain't No Grave Situation	Chronicle	Patterson Music Group



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# DECEMBER 2023

## Southern Gospel Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	46	Three Men On A Mountain	Loudermills	Millennium Music Group
52	48	Come and Hold Me	Norman Lee Schaffer	Millennium Music Group
53	-	Evidence	Triumphant Quartet	StowTown/Provident-Sony
54	68	Everlasting Arms	Appointed Grace	Millennium Music Group
55	-	All You Need Is Jesus	Greg Sullivan	Resting Place Music
56	76	Gonna Be Leaving	Jerry Grant	Millennium Music Group
57	83	When I Lay My Isaac Down	Ashley Eden	Millennium Music Group
58	87	I'll Be Waiting	Judy Murphy	Millennium Music Group
59	71	Statue Of Liberty	Rick Alan King	Millennium Music Group
60	-	Anthem Of The Ages	11th Hour	Sonlite/Crossroads
61	84	Are You Prepared To Meet The Man	Cheryl Stone	Heartsong Nashville Music Group
62	72	Respect The Thorn	Deborah Baliles	Millennium Music Group
63	59	The Glory	Freemans	Goldenvine Production/MMG
64	-	Here Comes Jesus	Jeff & Sheri Easter	Gaither Music/Capital Christian
65	51	Thank You For Loving Me	Greg Logins & Revival	Grace Records Nashville
66	93	Nobody Like Jesus	LeFevre Quartet	New Day Records/New Day
67	40	I Am The Cross	Pattie Mock	Millennium Music Group
68	88	Hope Of The World	Eddy Mann	MTS Records
69	-	Until We Fly Away	Ernie Haase & Signature Sound	StowTown/Provident-Sony
70	98	Even John Couldn't Tell It	Mark Huit	Millennium Music Group
71	-	I Think I'll Just Go On	Perrys	StowTown/Provident-Sony
72	79	When Faith Met Grace	Debra Schultz	Hey Y'all Media
73	-	On The Other Side	Rick Towe	Millennium Music Group
74	96	Hope	A New Beginning	Millennium Music Group
75	91	The Garden	Blood Bought	Millennium Music Group
76	94	His Hands	Garmons	Patterson Music Group
77	92	If Heaven Had A Door	Mary Burke	Millennium Music Group
78	66	Oh What A Day	Hagers	Patterson Music Group
79	89	Have A Little Faith	Two For Jesus	Millennium Music Group
80	-	Make The Morning Worth The Midnight	Gaither Vocal Band	Gaither Music/Capital Christian
81	95	More Than Life To Me	Purpose	Chapel Valley Music
82	99	It Is More Than Just A Story	Violet Maynard Family	Millennium Music Group
83	-	Everything's Fine	Michael Wayne Smith	Chapel Valley Music
84	73	Still Water	New Salem	Millennium Music Group
85	97	Won't It Be Wonderful	Bennie Taylor	Independent
86	-	Good Ole Gospel Music	Dan Looper & Mountain Sound	Millennium Music Group
87	-	I'm Forgiveness	Kingdom Heirs	Sonlite/Crossroads
88	-	In Case I Leave	Brian Burchfield	Patterson Music Group
89	-	It's Not About Us	3 Heath Brothers	Horizon/Crossroads
90	-	Reflections	Expectation	Millennium Music Group
91	-	Thank You	Tarrance Phillips	Millennium Music Group
92	-	Not Forgotten	Jeremiah & The Gallentine Family	Millennium Music Group
93	-	I Know He's Good	Linda Sanders	Scott Media
94	-	They've Got To Go	LizzyG	Grace Records Nashville
95	-	Mama Knows Jesus	Michael Combs	Independent
96	99	What'll I Do	Barry McGee	Grace Records Nashville
97	-	Somebody's Waiting For Me	Bibletones	Hey Y'all Media
98	-	Soldier On	Mark Dubbeld Family	Independent
99	-	Dust On The Altar	McKamey Legacy	Independent
100	-	Your Worst Mistake	Wilburn & Wilburn	Daywind/New Day

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Bobby Jones Family  
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Keith Barkley  
& Family Tradition  
Christ Is Born

Jerry Grant  
Meaning Of Christmas

Rick Towe  
Church On Bethlehem  
Road

Norman Lee Schaffer  
I Believe In Christmas

Ina & Buddy Gore  
His Sweetest Gifts

Lori Hardman  
Holidays And Yesterdays

Scotty  
Don't Save It All



Barbara Jean  
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Kenny Keith  
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Lorraine Howard  
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“I needed to find out who I was as a 100% original artist. Good, bad, or ugly, this is who I am.” Who I am, Marty Falle, is an incredible American Country/Bluegrass singer/songwriter and Nashville recording artist.

By Deborah Baliles

## ★ This is Who I Am ★

**F**rom living in Appalachia, Marty has a connection to the traditional music of Appalachia and the places where Bluegrass was born. “I get inspiration from my farm in Eastern Kentucky. I have thoroughly absorbed the music, culture, and influences of that storied region, and in the process, made them my own. There is something special when wood, strings, and voice unite in song. There is an authenticity that digital effects cannot cover up. It is simple, plain, pure, and perfect.”

Although, the singing came much earlier and perhaps without Marty even recognizing it. A football player in high school earned the bad boy his share of detentions. Sitting in the detention room, the choir director at the school walked in to recruit males to join choir. The incentive was to get out of detention if they would join the choir; Marty learned to sing,

and it became a passion. During his “get out of jail free” time, Marty performed *Messiah* by George Frideric Handel, *Magnificat* in D Major by Johann Sebastian Bach, as well as in musicals like *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. From there he joined a barbershop quartet, a Pop ensemble, and the orchestra. The best part for Marty was getting an A for just showing up, where he carried his talents on to tenth grade. There he would put together a 50s Rock and Roll Doo-Wop group, covering Dion’s *Teenager in Love* and the Silhouettes’ *Get a Job*.

A month’s home stay recovering from mononucleosis, Marty learned the Stephen Stills guitar parts to *Suite: Judy Blue Eyes*. “I tried to master all three harmonies, singing along to Crosby, Stills, and Nash.” After memorizing the song, Falle and his two friends, Ron and Lenny took the song to the high





school talent show, performing in front of the entire school. Crosby, Stills, and Nash, The Everly Brothers, Three Dog Night, and The Eagles (emulating Glenn Frey) were all big influences, “The music that formed a cornerstone of the late 60s and early 70s became further ingrained into my consciousness. These boyhood heroes, unknowingly, helped me to develop skills for this future singer and songwriter.”

Marty continues, “I remember going to the Fur Peace Ranch Guitar Camp in Meigs County Ohio for a week. Studying under Bill Kirchen, Chris Hillman, and Jorma Kaukonen, I remember Jorma picking me up and taking me to his “guitar cottage” where hundreds of guitars were stored. He let me pick out any guitar that I wanted to use that week. I so remember the anxiety of performing in front of these greats on the last day of camp. I performed *Friend of the Devil*, with two other campers, in three-part harmony. The whole time I was thinking of Jerry Garcia writing and playing, Workingman’s Dead, Jorma’s Hot Tuna, and Chris’ Flying Burrito Brothers and Manassas; wondering what each would think.

Marty became interested in Bluegrass while watching re-runs of “The Andy Griffith Show,” especially those episodes featuring the music of a fictional band called The Darlings (who were, in truth, the now revered ensemble better known as The Dillards). Marty’s fascination with the form grew from there. “I became more interested in Bluegrass while living in Athens, Ohio. At the Blue Eagle Music store, I would listen to guys playing banjo, fiddle, mandolin, and dobro.” After graduation from Ohio University, Marty came back to the Eastern Kentucky coal country. “That is where Country and Bluegrass music hit me hard!”

Marty became a traveling law book salesman, where the locals would take him in and introduce him to bourbon and Bluegrass in Renfro Valley. “I wore out my CDs of Dwight Yoakam (especially “Guitars, Cadillac”), Steve Earle, Keith Whitley, and Bill Monroe in my pick-up truck travelling down the roads of Pikeville, Harlan, Hazard, and Paintsville. I absorbed the Bakersfield sound, which of course included Buck Owens. Those experiences made a lingering impression. Real Appalachia influences my songwriting to this day.”

Marty fronted cover bands as a singer and guitar player. “It was fun for a while, but deep down inside, I wanted to be 100% Marty, whatever that was. God gave me a talent, a gift. It was up to me to actualize that gift.” Marty went all in with his first record, “Ohio” and has been doing originals ever since. The video, Hoochie Coochie Gal from the Buckeye State, recorded with friends and a talented line dance group, went viral and soared to three-million views. CMT featured the song on primetime, blowing Marty away but realizing he had made the right decision to be an original.

Marty would face his biggest challenge in the fight against advanced prostate cancer. “I remember going to the oncologist to find out the biopsy results and asking God for courage. While I was waiting, I kept reciting Psalm 23:4, ‘Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.’ Deuteronomy 31:6, ‘Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord your God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.’ I felt the Lord’s presence in the room when they gave the news, ‘You have cancer.’ It gave me tremendous comfort.”

A radical surgery, a serious setback, the return of cancer, the loss of his college roommate, a best friend, and his brother-in-law seemed insurmountable grief walls, leaving Marty wondering about his future. Would there be a future? Would he ever record again? Through all of the wonderings, he never stopped writing. With a good medical report in hand, Falle reached out to his Nashville team and set a date for recording.

Marty’s new record is titled, “My Farm, My Bluegrass.” In his own words, Falle describes his latest accomplishment. “It took an exceptional group of musicians to bring “My Farm, My Bluegrass” to fruition. Along with my producer, Jonathan Yudkin, all but assured that success by assembling an all-star band to back me up as I sang lead, backing vocals, and played rhythm guitar. Yudkin contributed fiddle and mandolin, while overseeing an erstwhile ensemble that included Carl Miner (guitar), Michael Bub (acoustic bass), Rob Ikes (dobro), Josh Matheny (dobro, lap steel, mandolin), Matt Menefee (banjo),

and Tim Carter (banjo). Additionally, Marty Slayton, Kim Parent, and Marcia Ramirez contributed backing vocals. Dale Ann Bradley shares lead vocals on *Ode to Ale 8*, *Chimney Letters*, and *Praise the Lord and Pass the Gravy*. The album's cover art was the work of Disney artist, Tom (TJ) Matousek. Each of these individuals boast distinguished résumés that not only confirm the fact that they are tops in their respective fields, but also offer a testament to a clear musical mantra. I made it my mission to weave together Bluegrass basics and ensure an enduring and indelible connection to the culture and heritage of my Eastern Kentucky environs." As of September 23, 2023, "My Farm, My Bluegrass" (released on August 28th) has been at #1 for twenty-seven straight days on APD (Air Play Direct) Global Top Bluegrass/Folk Albums. Deservingly so, Marty Falle and the album have been spotlighted in "The Bluegrass Standard," "Bluegrass Today," and "Country Music International" magazines.



On the new single, *Ode to Ale 8*, "It is my favorite soft drink and 100% Eastern Kentucky, a hundred-year-old company in Winchester, Kentucky. I own a two-hundred-acre farm in the Eastern coal country; while working one day, I was drinking Ale-8 and started humming a melody. I asked Dale Ann Bradley, an Eastern Kentucky Bluegrass legend, to track the vocals with me, and she was happy to join in. It is simple and silly." *Ode to Ale 8* became an immediate Top 10 hit on Bluegrass radio, entering the Top 5 on the Roots Music Contemporary Bluegrass chart, placing the album at #11. *Ode to Ale 8* tracked at #1 for the Bluegrass Jamboree Top 100 for September 2023. iHeart Radio Bluegrass powerhouse "Rick Dollar Show" selected *Ode to Ale 8* as the #1 Bluegrass song in the nation.

Faith and family are the most important things in Marty's life. Raised in a Catholic environment, he respects the traditions of the Catholic Church, but became uninspired by the repetitive nature of the weekly Mass. "I wanted a direct connection to God, not necessarily through any particular religion." Upon a friend's suggestion, Marty began attending a small non-denominational church, Grace Church. The services focused on the Bible and how it relates to modern living. Each seat had a Bible underneath it, encouraging all to take a Bible and take notes. The passage for this day was Philippians 3:14. "I had tears in my eyes as I furiously took notes, because it made sense to me. For the first time, there was no confusion. As my father had just passed away, I leaned heavily on what I was learning in order to overcome the grief. There are many Bible passages, but none are more impactful to me than Philippians 3:14."

Perhaps unaware, Marty preaches a bit, "Once a person is born again, they grow in grace from the lifelong pursuit to know the Lord. We press on towards the goal of his calling. Each believer has a specific purpose that God has called them to achieve. It is unique to each person. It is an imperfect journey, filled with disappointments and challenges. The key is to press on through it all and forget what is behind, ever looking forward to what is ahead. Let go of bitterness and conflict that can slow you down. Do the best that you can. Understand that you are flawed. Most importantly, do not stop in the pursuit of knowing Christ. Press on!" And the church said, "Amen."

Marty has written a few hundred songs in his life, but none have been more inspirational or important as *The Calling*. Basically a 7:20 prayer, it is based on Philippians 3:14. "It has served me well over the years, especially on my last day of radiation following my second round with cancer. The radiation staff let me ring the bell and gave me a diploma for getting through, which meant more to me than my college diploma. I then listened to *The Calling*." The song was never intended to be released to the public until a conversation with Annette Grady, founder of the Bluegrass Jamboree. She convinced Falle to share the message that so many are needing to hear. *The Calling* is included on "My Farm, My Bluegrass."

Nevertheless, Marty Falle insists that he never really intended to pursue music. "Music has always had a strong hold on me, but I have no interest in making it big, whatever that really means. I never did. I have met plenty of A-list artists who are miserable. My dreams came true a long time ago. I have a loving and supporting family. I am blessed to

***"It was fun for a while, but deep down inside, I wanted to be 100% Marty, whatever that was. God gave me a talent, a gift. It was up to me to actualize that gift." (Marty Falle)***

have made five original records. I have worked with many of Nashville's best and brightest. I have made a ton of friends. I have a great big smile on my face. My goals have been achieved. The rest is gravy."



Furthermore, "I am not interested in touring at this time. I have been invited to play some larger festivals worldwide, but graciously declined. I am in full-on creative mode of writing, singing, and recording. I truly believe that each song

idea is a gift from God, and I do not want to waste one opportunity to create it. At some point, I will play each of my original Bluegrass records in their entirety in Nashville, on a soundstage. I like the idea of getting the same group, in the same room on video, similar to something I did for European TV. After that, I would like to perform in some selected shows. I do miss the time on stage, but I do not miss the travel and the preparation that goes with touring. There is a season for everything, and right now I am in the season of creating music."

The planning is in the works for "My Farm, My Bluegrass" to be performed, in its entirety, live for TV taping at SIR Nashville Soundstage, as well as a live recording at The Station Inn Nashville.

Just like *Ale-8*, a long, simple and satisfying career regains its course for this original who has already written the songs for a "next" album. Marty Falle, "This is just who I am."

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# ELOISE Skief



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*"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."*  
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## Artist Spotlight

# EDDY MANN

By Jason Airy

Christian singer/songwriter Eddy Mann has been making music for over two decades, and his passion for spreading hope and inspiration through his songs has never wavered. Mann's music is a reflection of his own experiences, beliefs, and values, and his authenticity and genuine love for people shine through in every song.

With over twenty albums to his name and a career filled with memorable moments, Mann has established himself as a respected artist in the Christian music scene. However, his success is not measured by awards or chart-topping hits, but by the impact his music has on individuals.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Mann grew up in a home filled with faith, music, and creativity. His father, a be-bop pianist, and his mother, a culture-sharing creative, exposed Mann to a wide range of musical and spiritual influences. These diverse influences have inspired Mann to create music that speaks to people from all walks of life.

Mann's latest album, "Chapel Songs," is a testament to his dedicated approach to songwriting. The album, five years in the making, features songs that were born out of moments of worship, prayer, and discipleship. Each track is a reflection of Mann's own personal journey and his deep connection to his faith.

The first single off the album, *Hope of the World*, is an uplifting anthem of hope in a world that desperately needs it. Mann's lyrics are inspired by Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." This powerful message of hope resonates with listeners and has been sung in worship services across the US, UK, Germany, and Australia.



More than just a talented musician, Mann is also a dedicated performer. Whether he is performing solo or with his band, Mann's concerts are known for their personal and conversational feel. He engages with his audience, sharing personal stories and insights behind his songs, making each concert a unique and intimate experience.

As Mann continues to evolve as an artist, he remains true to his purpose - to bring a smile, light, or moment of peace to someone in need through his music. His mission is to spread love, compassion, and honesty in a world that often lacks these qualities. For Mann, being true to oneself and living boldly is the key to making a positive impact on the world.

In a world filled with turmoil and uncertainty, Eddy Mann's music serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration for his listeners. His dedication to his faith and his passion for music shine through in every song, creating a powerful and uplifting experience for all those who listen. As Mann continues to write, record, and perform, his message of love and hope will continue to touch and inspire audiences around the world.

In Eddy's words, "I'm driven to write, to record, and to perform by the opportunity to bring a smile, a light, or just a moment of peace to someone in need. That's why I get up each day, that's my part to play in this story, and that's why I'll continue to write about my experiences getting through each day."

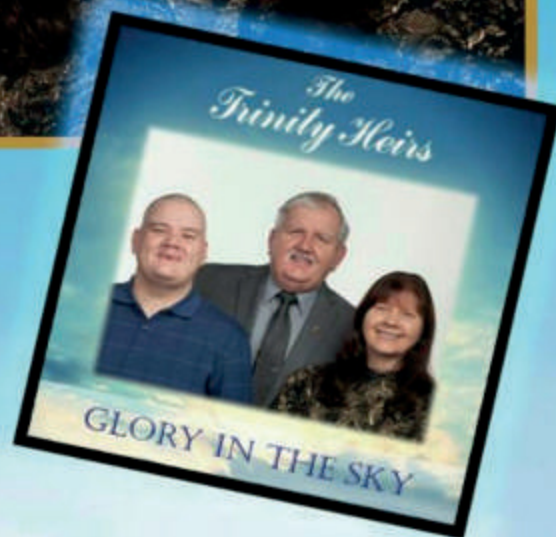


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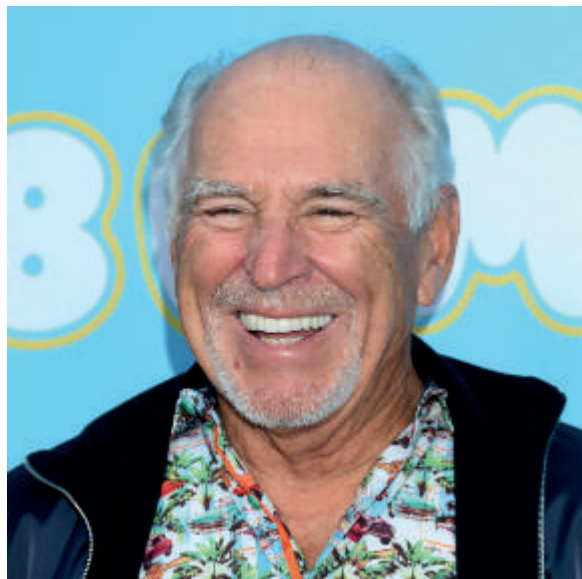
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## **Jimmy Buffett**

*December 25, 1946 – September 1, 2023*

With a recording career that spanned more than fifty years and included hits such as *Margaritaville*, *Come Monday*, and *It's Five O'Clock Somewhere*, Buffett was one of the most successful performers in popular music. He filled arenas with fans who called themselves "Parrot Heads," and popularized a signature blend of Folk, Country and Caribbean music with lyrics that often reflected Buffett's world travels. A pilot and a sailor, Buffett wrote songs about his plane being shot at by Jamaican police (*Jamaica Mistake*), getting lost in the Sahara Desert (*Buffet Hotel*) and smugglers he had known around the Florida Gulf Coast (*A Pirate Looks at 40*).

Although he was best known for upbeat party songs (others include *Cheeseburger in Paradise*, and *Fins*), Buffett first achieved notoriety for thoughtful ballads that showed the influence of Texas songwriters such as Jerry Jeff Walker and Canadian Gordon Lightfoot.

Bob Dylan praised lesser-known Buffett compositions *He Went to Paris* and *Death of an Unpopular Poet* - songs that reflected the observational, storytelling skills Buffett developed in his early career as a journalist for *Billboard* magazine.

Buffett had a second career as a successful author. He was one of a handful of writers who had number one bestsellers on both the fiction and non-fiction lists of the *New York Times Book Review*. He had a third career as an entrepreneur, building a diversified lifestyle brand business, including Margaritaville hotels, restaurants, and retirement communities, along with sidelines such as Land Shark beer. Buffett's branding and business acumen made him one of the most financially successful musicians of all time.

James William Buffett was born on Christmas, 1946 in Pascagoula, Mississippi and grew up in Alabama. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1969. He credited early years playing and singing in the streets and bars of New Orleans with shaping his dedication to connecting with his audience and giving the customers a good show. Buffett had little patience with performers who took themselves too seriously. He liked to say that the job of singing for a living was descended from the profession of court jester.

The beloved singer-songwriter passed away at his home in Sag Harbor, Long Island on Friday September 1, 2023, surrounded by family and friends. Buffett, 76, had been fighting Merkel Cell Skin Cancer for four years. He continued to perform during treatment, playing his last show, a surprise appearance in Rhode Island, in early July.

## **Richard Davis**

*April 15, 1930 - September 6, 2023*

Richard Davis was born in Chicago in 1930 and quickly discovered a passion for music. He studied double bass as a teen and was eventually a member of Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras. For twenty-three years, he lived in New York City and made a name for himself as one of the world's premier bass players. From 1967 to 1974, *Downbeat International Critics Poll* named him "Best Bassist."

In 1977, he settled down in Madison, becoming a professor of bass, Jazz, and ensemble at UW, where he taught for decades. He and his first graduate student, Peter Dominguez, created the Richard Davis Foundation for Young Bassists in the '90s. The Foundation holds annual master classes for musicians between the ages of three and eighteen. More than once, Davis hosted the conference in his own home.



Davis was also an advocate in the Madison community; in 1998, he created the Retention Action Project, which facilitated open dialogues on race and culture. In 2000, he founded Madison's Institutes for the Healing of Racism, which aims to raise consciousness about the history and pathology of racism and foster racial unity. Jesse Dirkman is a facilitator at the Institutes. She says that Davis was an invaluable resource: "He was always just so generous with his time and his stories."

A bandleader in his own right, Davis played with a bevy of top Jazz musicians. A small sampling: Eric Dolphy, Elvin Jones, Archie Shepp, Dorothy Ashby, Roland Kirk, Pharoah Sanders. And he performed with musicians outside the Jazz world including Bruce Springsteen, Van Morrison, Frank Sinatra, and Barbra Streisand.

Renowned Jazz musician Richard Davis passed away on September 6, 2023, at the age of 93, after spending several years in hospice care.

***Robert "Bob" Feldman***  
*June 14, 1940 - August 23, 2023)*

Born June 14, 1940, in Brooklyn, New York, Bob Feldman was once a member of the All-City Choir with Neil Diamond and Barbra Streisand. Along with his friend Jerry Goldstein, the two co-wrote a theme song for the Alan Freed TV show, *The Big Beat*, in 1959 before meeting songwriter Richard Gottlehrer in 1962. The three went on to write a number of hits throughout the 1960s and also formed their group *The Strangeloves* in 1964.

After relocating to the West Coast in 1966, Feldman produced records for artists such as *The Belmonts* and Surf Rock legend *Link Wray*.

Robert "Bob" Feldman, a singer, songwriter, and producer, best known for writing a catalog of hits such as *My Boyfriend's Back*, *I Want Candy*, and *Sorrow* with his writing partners Jerry Goldstein and Richard Gottlehrer, passed away on August 23, 2023. He was 83.



"The memories of the times we shared; the songs we wrote and the adventures that filled our lives remain," Gottlehrer said. "Sooner or later we'll all pass, but the music will live on. Rest in peace, Bob. We'll meet again."

"As a team, we go back to the 1960s and the Brill Building days, where we wrote and/or produced classics like *My Boyfriend's Back*, *I Want Candy*, *Hang on Sloopy* and *Sorrow*, which was eventually recorded and became an everlasting hit by David Bowie," added Gottlehrer. "We were even an 'Australian' band that called ourselves *The Strangeloves*," Per American Songwriter.



***Ronnie Eugene Gaddis***  
*July 15, 1955- August 24, 2023*

Ronnie Eugene Gaddis of Louisville, Kentucky was a talented musician and a loyal friend to many. He was born on July 15, 1955, in Louisville, Kentucky to Ralph and Eugenia Gaddis then was lovingly raised by Eugenia and Fred Smith.

***Continued on page 128 >>>***

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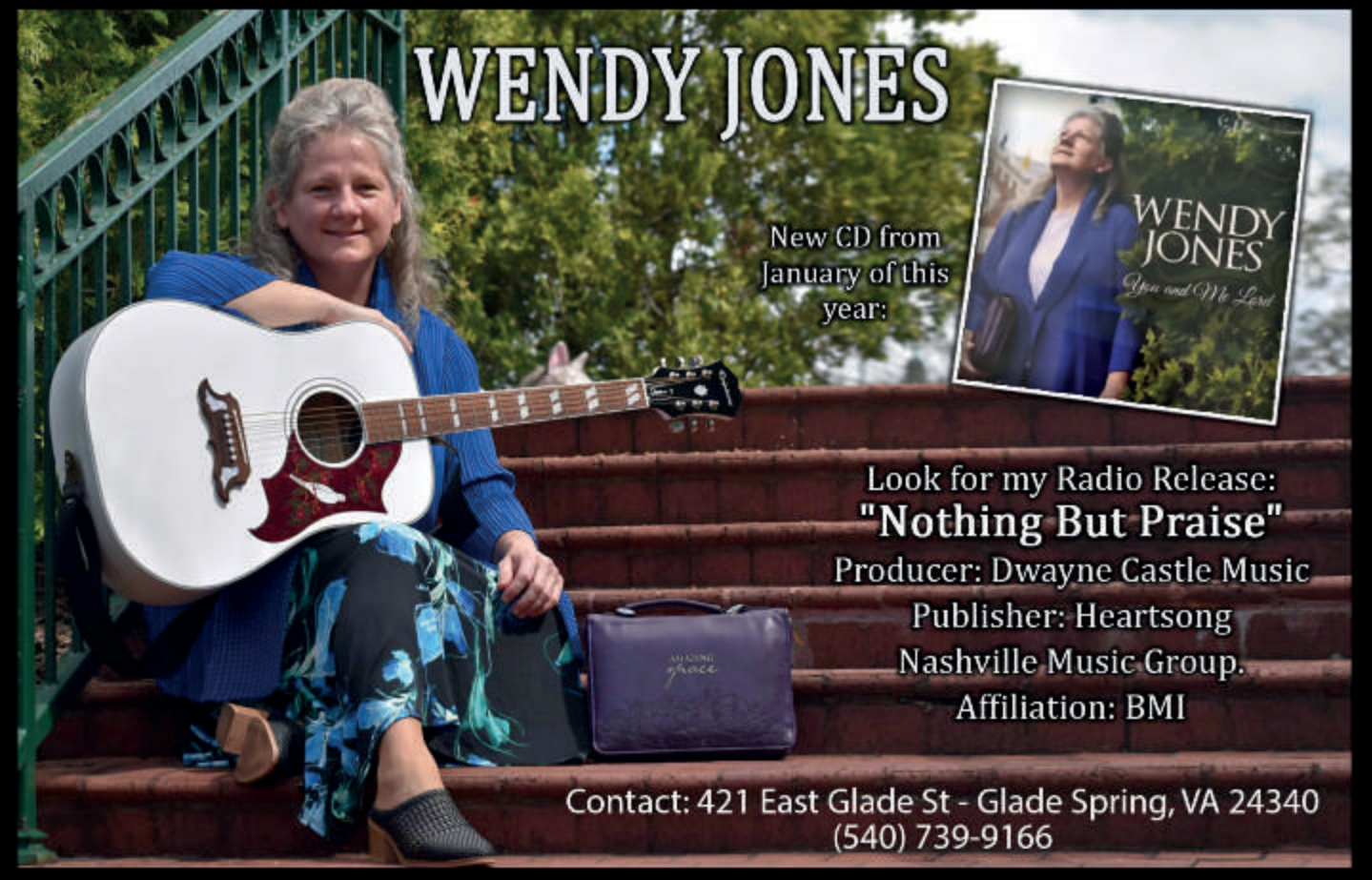
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<<< *The Music Lives On, continued from page 125*

Ron was a singer and a bassist who played with many Country music legends, most notably George Jones. He was George's bass player and background vocalist for over 25 years, and also sang duets with him on stage. He was known for his powerful voice and his ability to harmonize with George like no one else. He wrote and recorded his own songs such as *Chip Off The Old Block*, a tribute to George Jones.

Ron loved music and shared his passion with everyone he met. He was a kind and generous man who always had a smile on his face.

At age 68, Ron passed away on August 24, 2023. He is greatly missed by all who knew him.



***Ron Haffkine***

*December 13, 1938 - October 1, 2023*

Ron Haffkine was instrumental in getting Dr. Hook signed by Clive Davis at Columbia Records in the 1970s, and the band led by Dennis Locorriere, George Cummings, the eyepatch-wearing Ray Sawyer and Billy Francis would compile a string of hits that included *Sylvia's Mother*, *Cover of the Rolling Stone*, *Sharing the Night Together*, *When You're in Love With a Beautiful Woman*, *Sexy Eyes*, *Baby Makes Her Blue Jeans Talk* and *A Little Bit More*.

Haffkine produced ten Dr. Hook studio albums and two live albums and also worked with the likes of Waylon Jennings, Lou Rawls, Mac Davis and Helen Reddy. He also often collaborated with singer, songwriter and poet Shel Silverstein. He won a Grammy Award in 1985 for producing Silverstein's "Where the Sidewalk Ends" and received another Grammy nom two years later for his work on another Silverstein children's album, "A Light in the Attic."

Born in New York on December 13, 1938, Haffkine contracted polio when he was twelve, leaving him paralyzed for two years. Later, he and Silverstein became friends in Greenwich Village. Silverstein asked him to produce music he had written for the films *Ned Kelly* (1970), starring Mick

Jagger, and *Who Is Harry Kellerman and Why Is He Saying Those Terrible Things About Me?* (1971), starring Dustin Hoffman and Barbara Harris.

Haffkine recommended that Dr. Hook be used in Harry Kellerman, but for that to happen, the New Jersey band had to have a record deal. After the musicians did an impromptu live showcase in Davis' office and were signed, Dr. Hook performed the Silverstein-written songs *Bunky and Lucille* and *Last Morning* in the movie.

Ron also produced Silverstein's 1972 music comedy album "Freakin' at the Freakers' Ball," with Dr. Hook handling the title track, and recorded the quirky Silverstein song *Do You Want to Boogie or Do You Don't* that year as well.

Ron Haffkine died Sunday, October 1, 2023, at his home in Mexico after a brief bout with leukemia and kidney failure. He was 83 years old. His friend of fifty years, music executive Joel Diamond, told *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Ron always had an uncanny knack of hearing a hit song in its rawest stage and the rare talent to couple it with the best musicians and then top it off with a meticulous performance by the artist."



***Steven Scott Harwell***

*January 9, 1967 – September 4, 2023*

Born in California in 1967, Steve Harwell performed in a rap group called F.O.S. (Freedom of Speech) before forming *Smash Mouth* in 1994. The band released two platinum albums on Interscope Records, their ska-fueled 1997 debut "Fush Yu Mang" and 1999's "Astro Lounge." The second album featured some of the band's biggest hits, including the Grammy-nominated, platinum single *All Star*, which appeared in the movie "Shrek" alongside their cover of the Monkees' *I'm a Believer*. *Smash Mouth* is also known for hits including *Walkin' on the Sun* and *Then The Morning Comes*.

Humor was a driving force behind Smash Mouth's success, and at the forefront was Harwell's playful Alt-Rock voice and persona. He made a cameo in 2001 comedy film "Rat Race," and had a well-documented friendship with the Food Network chef and host Guy Fieri.

Harwell retired from performing and left Smash Mouth in 2021. The band continued to tour with Zach Goode as the singer. Smash Mouth released a statement at the time saying Harwell had been diagnosed with cardiomyopathy eight years earlier and had suffered "nonstop serious medical setbacks including heart failure as well as acute Wernicke Encephalopathy."

Harwell passed away on Monday, September 4, 2023 surrounded by family and friends at his home in Boise, Idaho. He was 56. The band's manager, Robert Hayes, stated the cause of death was acute liver failure.

"Steve Harwell was a true American Original. A larger-than-life character who shot up into the sky like a Roman candle," Hayes said. "Steve should be remembered for his unwavering focus and impassioned determination to reach the heights of Pop stardom. His only tools were his irrepressible charm and charisma, his fearlessly reckless ambition," Hayes said, adding: "Steve lived a 100% full-throttle life, burning brightly across the universe before burning out. He will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him."



### ***Rudolph "Rudy" Bernard Isley***

*April 1, 1939 - October 11, 2023*

Rudolph Isley was born in 1939, in Cincinnati, Ohio. In just fifteen years, Rudolph began what would become a world-renowned band called The Isley Brothers. Three of his siblings, Kelly, Vernon, and Ronald, all took part in the upstart band. Unfortunately, Vernon died as a teenager in 1955 shortly after the band got started.

The brothers stuck together though, and by 1959, The Isley Brothers had produced their first song to reach the music

charts. They titled the hit, *Shout*. They were certainly not stopping there. In 1962, the brothers produced a cover for the song *Twist and Shout*, which initially gained the song substantial traction. The Beatles then performed a cover of *Twist and Shout* a year later, launching the song into even more success.

In 1970, the brothers won a Grammy with a fan favorite, *It's Your Thing*. The group was eventually introduced into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame.

Following all of this success, Rudolph chose to change directions in life and pursue Christian ministry in the 1980s. Rudolph was loved by many and will be remembered for his impact on music and the lives he touched during his time in ministry.

Rudolph Isley passed away on the morning of Monday, October 11, 2023. The exact cause of Isley's death has not yet been confirmed; however, it is believed he passed due to a heart attack. Isley's attorney shared that: "He died at his home, with his devoted wife Elaine by his side. They had been married for 68 years. Rudolph was a deeply religious man who loved Jesus."



### ***Terry Robert Kirkman***

*December 12, 1939 - September 23, 2023*

Terry Robert Kirkman was born in Salina, Kansas, on December 12, 1939, and was raised in Chino, California. Both his parents had a musical background. His father Gordon had performed in bands as a soprano saxophone player and singer, and his mother Lois played the organ and piano at church and in silent film theaters.

Kirkman first learned how to play brass instruments as a child, during the second world war. After graduating from Chino High School in 1957, he attended Chaffey College as a music major. He met Frank Zappa in college, and they performed together at local coffeehouses from 1959 to 1961.

***Continued on page 132 >>>***

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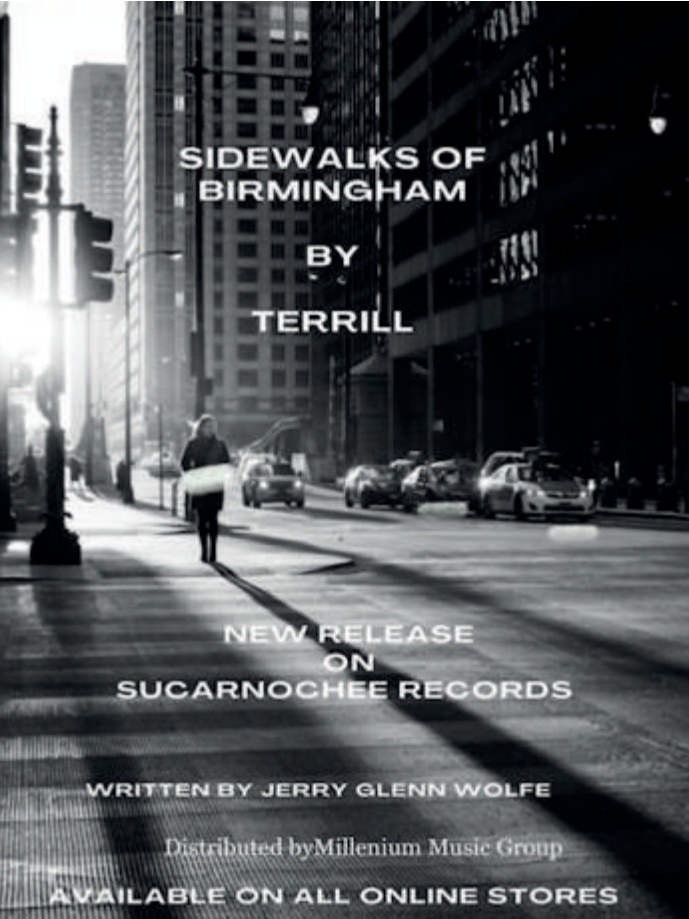
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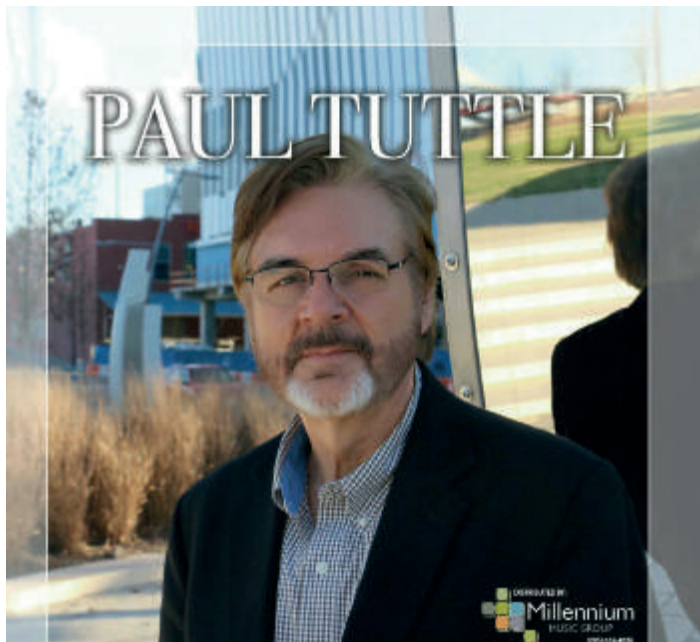


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<<< *The Music Lives On, continued from page 129*

Kirkman moved to Los Angeles with his friend Jules Alexander in 1963 and founded the Folk group the Inner Tubes, which at one time included both Cass Elliot and David Crosby. The Inner Tubes slowly grew from a small group into a 13-piece band called the Men.

The Men disbanded in February 1965 and Kirkman and five other members formed their own band, The Association. The Folk-Rock group peaked two years later with a string of recordings that included *Along Comes Mary*, *Never My Love* and *Everything That Touches You*.

Known for their sharp sense of style and smooth harmonies, The Association opened the 1967 Monterey Pop Festival, recognized as the first commercial American Rock festival, with a bill including Jimi Hendrix and the Who, Janis Joplin, Jefferson Airplane, the Grateful Dead, the Byrds, Canned Heat, and many more. They held their own among the legends of Rock, onlookers noted at the time.

Kirkman wrote several hits for the Association, including *Cherish*, *Everything That Touches You*, and *Six Man Band*, and played a variety of wind, brass and percussion instruments on their recordings.

Kirkman left The Association at the end of 1972, following the release of seven albums, led by their 1966 debut "And Then... Along Comes the Association." He returned to the fold in 1979, splitting once more in 1984 - having had enough of relentless touring.

The early '80s reunion included recording sessions which followed an appearance on the HBO special *Then and Now*. The Association did release a couple of singles for Elektra around that time - including *Dreamer*, which hit charts in 1981.

Over the years, The Association was nominated for six Grammy Awards and earned a Golden Globe nomination in 1970 for best original song, with *Goodbye Columbus*.

Various incarnations of the band continue to perform, and their albums have achieved three platinum and six gold RIAA certifications, according to the Association's official site, with its "Greatest Hits" (via Warner Brothers) now double platinum.

Kirkman passed away September 23, 2023, at his home in Montclair, California from congestive heart failure following a long illness. He was 83.

### **Charlie Robison**

*September 1, 1964 - September 10, 2023*

Robison launched his music career in the late 1980s, playing in local Austin bands like Two Hoots and a Holler before forming his own Millionaire Playboys. In 1996, he released his solo debut album, "Bandera," named for the Texas Hill Country town where his family has had a ranch for generations.

When he was approached by Sony in 1998, Robison signed with its Lucky Dog imprint, which was devoted to rawer Country. His 2001 album "Step Right Up" produced his only Top 40 Country song, *I Want You Bad*.



In 2018, Robison announced that he had permanently lost the ability to sing following a surgical procedure on his throat. "Therefore, with a very heavy heart I am officially retiring from the stage and studio," he wrote on Facebook.

Robison served as a judge for one year on USA Network's "Nashville Star," a reality TV show in which contestants lived together while competing for a Country music recording contract.

Robison's breakup with Emily Strayer from the Dixie Chicks inspired songs on the 2009 album, "Beautiful Day." He recorded it while living across from the Greyhound bus station in San Antonio, in a loft apartment with mismatched furniture and strewn beer bottles, "the quintessential bachelor pad," he recalled. "People come up to me and say they're going through something right now, and it's like this is completely written about them," Robison told The Associated Press in 2009. "I wasn't meaning to do that, but it's been a residual effect of the record."

Robison's final album, the rock-tinged "High Life" from 2013, included a cover version of Bob Dylan's *When I Paint My Masterpiece*.

On September 10, 2023, Robison died at a hospital in San Antonio after suffering cardiac arrest and other complications, according to a family representative.

### **Katherine Anderson-Schaffner**

*January 16, 1944 - September 19, 2023*

Katherine Anderson-Schaffner was a founding member of the Marvelettes – the group behind the classic *Please, Mr. Postman*, a song that stayed on the music charts for an astounding 23 weeks in 1961, eventually reaching #1 on the charts in December.

It all started when she was one of five schoolmates who formed a girl group to sing in a talent show in 1961. She was already a veteran of the Inkster High School glee club in Inkster, Michigan, and the talent show offered a Motown



audition to the winners. Schaffner and her friends came in fourth, but they managed to finagle an audition anyway in a move that was as auspicious for Motown as it was for the young women. The label signed the group, renamed them the Marvelettes, and almost immediately released their debut single, *Please Mr. Postman*, while they were about to start their senior year of high school. The song became Motown's first No. 1 Pop hit and has remained a classic of the era.

The Marvelettes continued releasing hits, including *Playboy*, *Beechwood 4-5789*, *Too Many Fish in the Sea*, *Don't Mess with Bill*, and *The Hunter Gets Captured by the Game*.

The group's membership evolved over the course of the 1960s, but Schaffner remained one of its core members, along with Wanda Young (1943–2021) and Gladys Horton (1945–2011). When the group disbanded in 1969, Anderson continued working as a songwriter for Motown for a short time, then left the music business to focus on her family.

Katherine Anderson-Schaffner passed away on September 20, 2023, at a hospital in Dearborn, Michigan, of heart failure at the age of 79.

Anderson-Schaffner's sister made the following post on social media following the beloved singer's passing: "Some called her Kat - some called her Sis , Gamma - Momma K, but my sister and I called her MOM," she wrote in her tribute post. "She was not just a mom to us but to many. Many people would come and sit at her table. Now if you ever sat and said, 'Kat I need to talk.' You already knew you were going to get true, uncut, unedited council. She wasn't going to tell you what you wanted to hear but what you should hear. I remember friends saying I'm coming over and I would say, 'I'm not home;' the response would be 'I'm going to talk to your mom.' My response would always be 'you know how that's going to go, right?' Two hours and a box of tissue later sitting at her kitchen table, your counseling session was over. The funny part is you would come back for more."

"Katherine Anderson-Schaffner is and will always be one of the original Marvelettes. Her music and legacy will live

on. So, the next time you hear *Please Mr. Postman*, *Don't Mess With Bill*, or *The Hunter Gets Captured By The Game*, just smile and say 'I'll Keep Holding On.' Mom, we love you and will miss you. And yes, we know – 'It is what it is.'"



### **John Thomas "Jack" Sonni**

*December 9, 1954 - August 30, 2023*

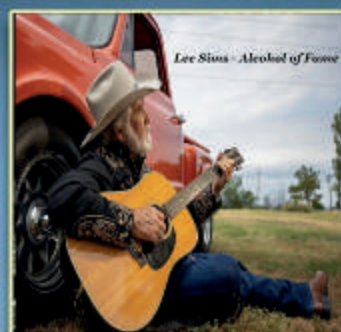
John Thomas Sonni was born on December 9, 1954, in Indiana, Pennsylvania. He was drawn to music at an early age, first learning piano. Sonni was studying literature at the University of Connecticut. The multi-instrumentalist's passion for music prompted him to transfer to the Hartford Conservatory of Music. There, the pianist, trumpet player, and guitarist further honed the craft he had been working on since he was a child.

Sonni moved to New York in the 1970s, working as a session musician and performing with his own band, the Leisure Class. In 1978, while working at Rudy's Music Stop, owned by renowned luthier Rudy Pensa, he met the members of Dire Straits and formed a friendship. Six years later, when David Knopfler and Hal Lindes left the band, Mark Knopfler asked Sonni to step in.

Sonni became known as "the other guitarist" with Dire Straits, recording "Brothers in Arms" with the band and touring for the album. "Brothers in Arms" was a huge success, selling 30 million copies worldwide and spawning hits like *Money for Nothing* and *Walk of Life*. On July 13, 1985, he played the Live Aid concert with the band. Sonni retired from music in 1988, after the birth of his twin daughters.

*Continued on page 136 >>>*

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## <<< *The Music Lives On, continued from page 133*

In 2001, he became vice president of marketing communication for Guitar Center. In the summer of 2006, Sonni left Guitar Center to write books, moving to San Jose del Cabo, then California. He was writer-in-residence and house manager at the Noepe Center for Literary Arts on Martha's Vineyard until its closure in 2017. Jack had also returned to playing music on a regular basis with his band The Leisure Class.

The Dire Straits guitarist, Jack Sonni passed away on August 30, 2023, at the age of 68.



### ***Charles Wilburn ("Buck") Trent***

*February 17, 1938 - October 9, 2023*

Born Charles Wilburn Trent in Spartanburg, South Carolina, Buck began playing Hawaiian guitar when he was seven years old. He also played dobro, mandolin, electric bass, guitar, and most notably, five-string banjo. He started performing on radio at age ten. When he was seventeen, he was featured on the TV show of Cousin Wilbur (Westbrooks) in Asheville, North Carolina.

He moved to California, where he performed on Town Hall Party, Hometown Jamboree, and other west coast Country shows. He then fronted his own bands in San Angelo, Texas and Atlanta (on WJFB-TV). Next, he moved to Nashville and joined the road show of Opry star Bill Carlisle in 1959. After serving a brief stint with Bill Monroe, he joined Porter Wagoner's Wagonmasters in 1962. This is where he developed his electric-banjo innovation alongside steel-guitar maestro Shot Jackson.

The Porter Wagoner Show was the top nationally syndicated Country music show of the 1960s. The show also included comic Speck Rhodes, dancing fiddler Mack Magaha, and spectacular "girl singer" Parton. Trent played on all of the hit duets recorded by Wagoner and Parton, as well as on her solo LPs. He urged her to record *Mule Skinner Blues*, which became her first top 10 hit (1970). Those are his

distinctively rhythmic acoustic-guitar licks opening Dolly Parton's iconic *Jolene*. He also played on the singer's original version of *I Will Always Love You* and on Parton's albums "Coat of Many Colors" (1973), "My Tennessee Mountain Home" (1973) and "Rainbow" (1987), among others.

Trent remained with the Wagonmasters through 1973. He spent the next seven years with Roy Clark. They were part of the first Country music road show to tour the Soviet Union (1976). He and fellow instrumental great Clark created several dazzling duet performances. They were named the CMA's "Instrumental Group of the Year" in 1975 and 1976.

When Clark joined the Hee Haw cast, so did Trent. He remained with the show for nineteen years. This higher profile led to a number of solo albums showcasing his instrumental gifts. He recorded for the Smash, RCA, Boone, Dot and ABC labels, as well as for his own imprint. Among his best-known collections were "Bionic Banjo" (1976), "Oh Yeah!" (1977) and "Buck Trent" (1986).

In the 1990s, Buck became a headliner in Branson, Missouri. Between 2008 and 2015, he was featured on The Marty Stuart show. He recorded with the future Country Music Hall of Famer on the 2012 CD "Tear the Woodpile Down."

He embarked on the 2018 "Kornfield Friends" Hee Haw reunion tour alongside former show regulars Lulu Roman, Misty Rowe, and Jana Jae. Trent's final album, "Spartanburg Blues," was released in 2018.

Buck Trent passed away in Branson, Missouri on Monday morning, October 9th. He was 85. His ebullient personality and infectious on-stage energy were matched by unparalleled musicianship. The latter was displayed on dozens of records. He made fifteen solo albums and was also heard on albums by Wagoner, Nancy Sinatra, Mac Wiseman, Wilma Lee & Stony Cooper, Norma Jean, Johnnie & Jack, Roy Clark, and many others.

The music industry not only mourns the passing of a remarkable musician but also celebrates a life that brought immense joy through the power of music. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of artists and Country music enthusiasts, ensuring that his memory lives on in the heartfelt melodies of the genre he cherished. Buck Trent may have left this world, but his music will forever resonate in the hearts of those who loved and admired him.

### ***Gary Malcolm Wright***

*April 26, 1943 - September 4, 2023*

Gary Wright was born in Cresskill, New Jersey. His father was a construction engineer, and his mother was a singer, as were his two sisters. His older sister, Beverly, enjoyed some success as a Pop and Folk singer in the 60s, while his younger sister, Lorna, released the album "Circle of Love" (1978) and several singles.

His mother encouraged him to take an interest in music and acting. At the age of seven, he appeared in the TV sci-fi series Captain Video and His Video Rangers, and when he



was twelve he was hired as an understudy for a Broadway musical, *Fanny*. This resulted in him going on stage in the role of Cesario, son of the titular *Fanny*, played by Florence Henderson, and in 1955, appearing with Henderson on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

His enthusiasm subsequently switched to music, and while at Tenafly High School in New Jersey, he played in several Rock'n'Roll groups. He would cite R&B artists Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, and James Brown among his musical idols, along with Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, and the Beatles.

Having attended college in Virginia and then focused on medicine at New York University, Wright was studying psychology at the Free University of Germany in West Berlin when he abandoned his academic plans and formed a group called the New York Times. They supported the English group Traffic at a gig in Oslo, where he met the Island Records boss Chris Blackwell. Blackwell introduced Wright to four of the five members of the now-defunct band Art, and Spooky Tooth was formed. Traffic's producer Jimmy Miller worked on their first two albums, *It's All About* and *Spooky Two* (1969).

Wright left the band, but in 1972 got together with another original member, Mike Harrison, and rebuilt it with a new lineup. They recorded *You Broke My Heart So ... I Busted Your Jaw* (1973), *Witness* (1973) and *The Mirror* (1974), but lack of commercial success prompted Wright to quit to pursue a solo career.

He released the albums "Extraction" and "Footprint" before the turning point of "Dream Weaver." "The Light of Smiles" (1977) took him into the US Top 30, and gave him a modest hit single with *Phantom Writer*. "The Right Place" (1981) reached 79 on the US album chart, and delivered his final hit single, *Really Wanna Know You*, which reached 16 in the US.

In 2004, he reunited with Spooky Tooth for two gigs in Germany, preserved on the album "Nomad Poets." In 2008 the band undertook a European tour and appeared at the Island

Records 50th anniversary event at the Shepherd's Bush Empire in west London. In the same year Wright toured north America with Ringo Starr & His All-Starr Band. In 2014 he published *Dream Weaver: Music, Meditation and My Friendship with George Harrison*.

Gary's music career was punctuated by hits like *Dream Weaver* and *Love is Alive* in 1976, with the latter peaking at No. 2. His 1979 track, *Really Wanna Know You*, also made waves, reaching No. 16 on the Billboard Hot 100. "Dream Weaver" achieved Gold record certification in the United States in 1976.

Beyond his solo success, Gary was a sought-after studio musician, notably contributing to ex-Beatle George Harrison's iconic 1970 album "All Things Must Pass" and participating in Harrison's subsequent solo projects throughout the 1970s. Their close bond led Wright to describe Harrison as his "spiritual mentor" in later years. In a 2014 interview, Wright reflected on his spiritual journey, crediting his profound exploration of spiritual life to his association with George Harrison.

"I always had a feeling that God existed and was helping me. It wasn't really defined clearly, but I knew there was something there, and it wasn't until I met George Harrison that I started to really begin to delve deeply into spiritual life."

Wright's musical contributions extended to collaborations with artists like Ringo Starr and Ronnie Spector during that era. He went on to compose soundtracks for three movies and is recognized as one of the pioneers in introducing the synthesizer to Pop music.

Gary Wright passed away at the age of 80, succumbing to complications arising from Parkinson's Disease and dementia. His family confirmed his peaceful passing, surrounded by loved ones, at his Palos Verdes Estates residence in California on September 4, 2023.



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